

DOWNTOWN PEABODY

HISTORICAL SURVEY OF STRUCTURES

1980



RC 7 204

DOWNTOWN PEABODY
HISTORICAL SURVEY
OF STRUCTURES

BASTILLE-NEILEY

Architects and Consultants
Boston, Massachusetts

December, 1980

FOREWORD

The following survey was done as part of the "Urban Design and Façade Studies Program" for the City of Peabody by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Communities and Development while Byron J. Matthews was Secretary of Communities and Development. Ms. Jean Van Orman of the Executive Office of Communities and Development coordinated the program with Glenn Garber, Director of the Peabody Community Development Department, and members of this office who were working on the project.

Principal survey work was done by Edward W. Gordon and Robert G. Neiley. They were generously assisted in their work by many people and institutions including Hon. Peter Torigian, Mayor of the City of Peabody; John A. Wells, the city's leading historian; Dan Doucette of the Peabody Historical Society; Richard Strommer of the Peabody Institute; Arthur Gordon of Gordon Real Estate; Mrs. Arthur Norton of the Essex Institute in Salem; Ellie Reichlin, librarian of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities in Boston; Florence Connolly of the Fine Arts Department of the Boston Public Library; and Jack Jackson of the Boston Athenaeum. To all these and many others our thanks for aid in locating documents, historic photographs and factual information needed for the Survey.

It is our belief that the historical perspective on the growth of the City of Peabody and its people which is available in the following pages will assist public authorities and private citizens in understanding and valuing their community better and in choosing wisely for its development and change. Thoughtless and uncoordinated change can damage the vitality and self-image of a community, and conversely, development based on self-awareness, continuity and well-reasoned choice can be highly beneficial.

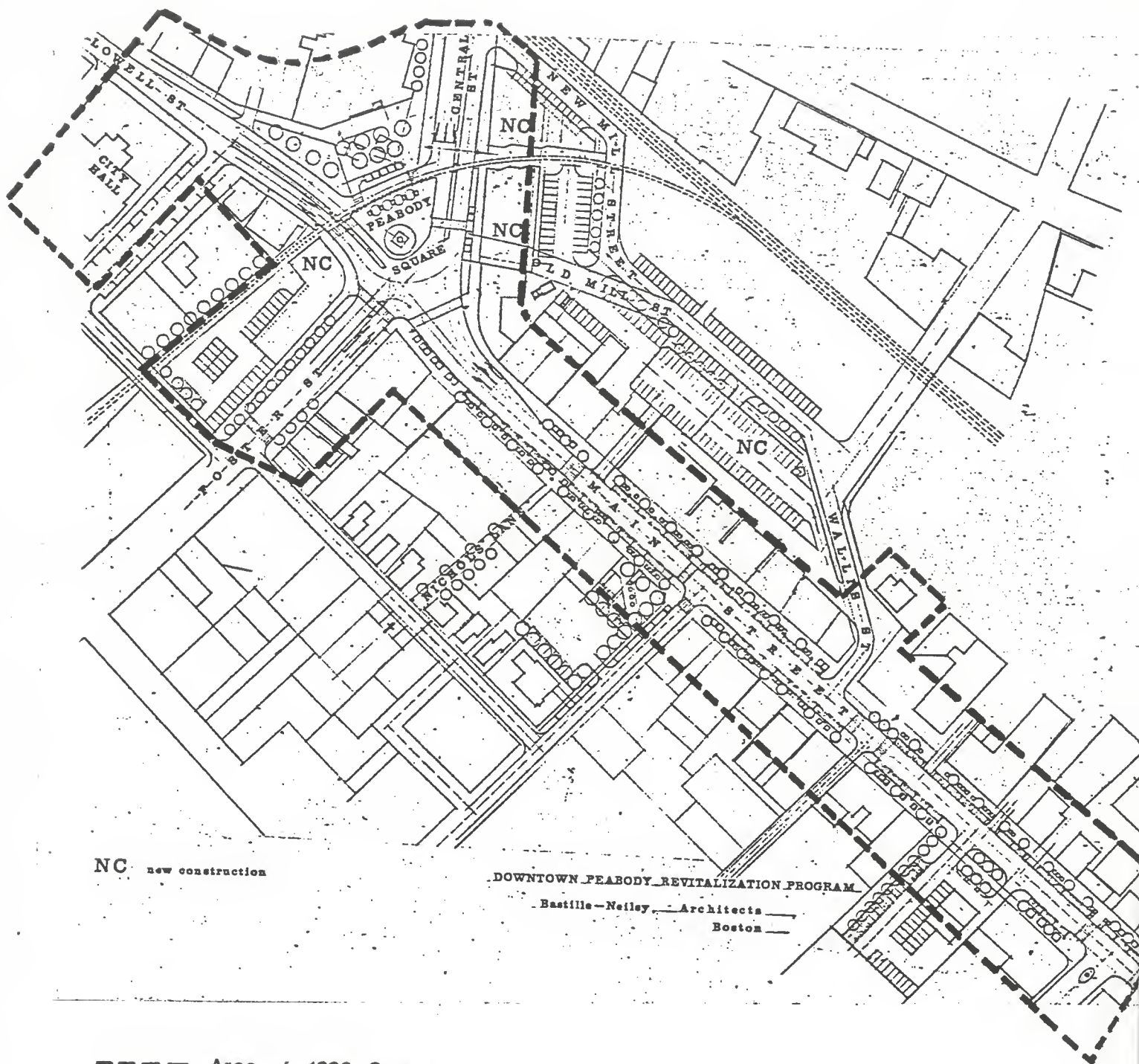
We trust that the following survey of its present and past will help the City of Peabody to make good decisions on what its future is to be.

Respectfully submitted

Bastille-Neiley
Architects and Consultants
Boston, Massachusetts

by Robert G. Neiley
Robert G. Neiley

December, 1980



--- Area of 1980 Survey

Notes on Arrangement

The map shows the area of the present survey - basically both sides of Main Street from City Hall to Washington Street, including the portions of Foster Street and Central Street adjacent to Peabody Square.

The survey begins at City Hall, moving along the south side of Main Street to Washington Street, then across to the North side of Main Street and back to Peabody Square and the City Hall.

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 24 Lowell Street

1) CURRENT OWNER City of Peabody

2) HISTORIC NAME Peabody Town Hall

3) PROPERTY TYPE Government Building

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1883

SOURCE see National Register Nomination

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER Rufus Sargent

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF government UF government

4) PRESENT USE: GF government UF government

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Second Empire

2) MATERIALS:

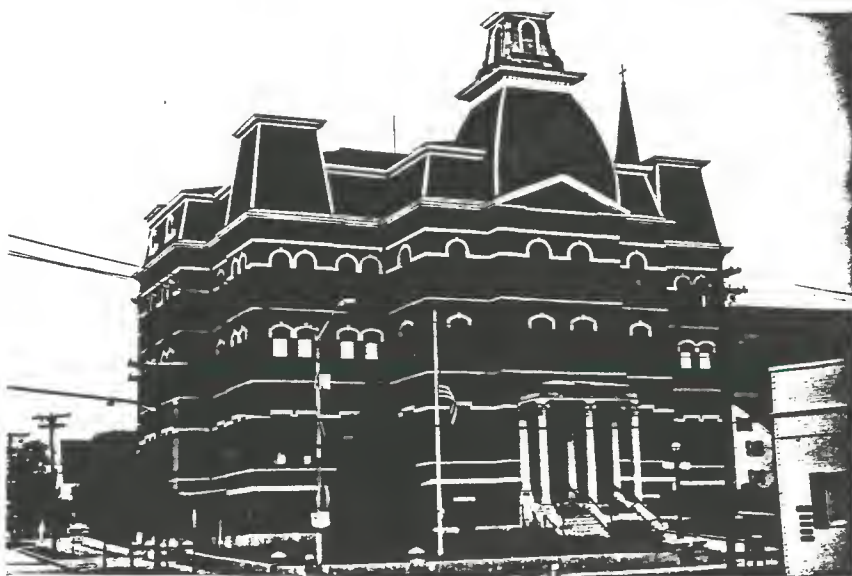
FOUNDATION granite

FACADE brick

TRIM granite

VIEW FROM East

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 24 Lowell Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC Excellent
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF intact with renovations
UF intact with renovations
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES residential, commercial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING focal point in area

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

See National Register Nomination



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Massachusetts	
COUNTY: Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Peabody City Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC:
originally Peabody Town Hall

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
24 Lowell Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Peabody

STATE:
Massachusetts

CODE: 025 COUNTY: Essex CODE: 009

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work In progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____
--	---	--	---	---

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
City of Peabody

STREET AND NUMBER:
24 Lowell Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Peabody

STATE:
Massachusetts

CODE: 025

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
South Essex Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:
32 Federal Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Salem

STATE:
Massachusetts

CODE: 025

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth, Archives
Museum, Office of the Secretary

DATE OF SURVEY: 1971

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: ☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local

Archives Museum, Office of the Secretary

STREET AND NUMBER:
State House

CITY OR TOWN:
Boston

STATE:
Massachusetts

CODE: 025

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Massachusetts
COUNTY: Essex
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1883

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Prehistoric☐ Historic☒ Agriculture☒ Architecture☐ Art☐ Commerce☐ Communications☐ Conservation☒ Education☐ Engineering☐ Industry☐ Invention☐ Landscape☐ Architecture☐ Literature☐ Military☒ Music☒ Political☐ Religion/Phi-

losophy

☐ Science☐ Sculpture☒ Social/Human-

itarian

☒ Theater☐ Transportation☐ Urban Planning☐ Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The City Hall in Peabody, built in 1883 as a Town Hall, is tremendously significant in the city's history, not only as the scene of local governmental activity but equally as the center of cultural and social affairs. As the town's population was 9,028, objections were raised to the size of the proposed building, a size since proven completely justified. The annual town meeting was of first importance and the raison d'etre for the construction of the Great Hall within. Because of the foresight of the town fathers, this large auditorium remained adequate to contain those citizens who wished to attend town meeting until Peabody became a city in 1916. At this time the population had grown to 18,625.

In the basement were the police court and headquarters, jail cells and the "transient quarters." On the first floor were town offices and the small hall seating 500. On the second floor with open space extending to the third was the aforementioned Great Hall. For many years this large hall with its balcony on three sides and stage on the fourth was the locale of nearly every important event in Peabody, beginning with the impressive dedication in 1883, attended by about 1,500 people.

For sixty-two years, from 1884 to 1946, the Peabody High School held its commencement exercises here. One of the earliest cultural events was a production of the opera "Virginia," produced by the Boston Bijou Theatre Company and attended by 1,000 people. To raise funds, various groups presented a miscellany of plays and entertainments, ranging from "Our Boys" (1890) and "Crown of Fame" (1891) put on by the Women's Relief Corps No. 52, to the Peabody Women's Club production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" (1909). "Heroes of '76," described as a "dramatic cantata of the Revolution," was presented in aid of the Ladies Benevolent Society (1885) and in the early 1900's, musical comedies were popular, such as the 1913 "Little Em'ly," an offering by the Peabody I. O. O. F.

As the seats in the hall were removeable, the space could be converted and opened up for dining and dancing. A Japanese wedding and party were celebrated there and, at a later date, a Firemen's Ball, attended by over 800 people, hardy souls who danced until 5:30 a. m. In 1904 the Peabody Board of Trade held a Ladies Night with a banquet and entertainment.

One of the most successful events in the hall took place on February 18, 1895. Afternoon and evening exercises celebrated the centennial of the birth of George Peabody, "America's first great philanthropist," for whom the town was named and whose charities not only encompassed this country but also extended across the Atlantic to Great Britain. In recognition of this celebration, Queen

[continued]

DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>(Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered </div> <div>(Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site </div> </div>
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>The Peabody City Hall is a three-story rectangular structure with a high basement and mansard roof. The main block of the building measures 106' by 90'. The projecting vestibule and portico on the Lowell Street side measures 54' by 30'. The principal entrance to the building is on the north or Lowell Street side. Chestnut Street lies to the east and Church Street to the south and west.</p> <p>Directly adjacent to Peabody City Hall are several other mid- and late nineteenth century buildings, which are generally well preserved and of good quality. Diagonally across Lowell Street is the fire station of the late 19th century, which in its materials (brick and granite) and details (arched windows and oculi) appears to have been designed to complement the City Hall. On Chestnut Street there is a row of wooden houses, most of which, with the exception of a funeral home, are free of inappropriate remodellings and retain most of their original detail. Other buildings of note are the Catholic Church, convent buildings and two Greek Revival houses to the rear of the City Hall.</p> <p>The material of the City Hall building is brick with a rusticated foundation and all trim of granite from Hallowell, Maine. Granite curbing, apparently original surrounds the building lot. The present roofing material is asphalt shingles. The small central cupola is faced with copper.</p> <p>One of the most distinctive exterior features of the building is its mansard roof, which has four straight-sided corner pavillions and a larger central one in which is located the principal entrance. The curved roof of the central pavillion is crowned with the small copper-clad cupola with a round headed window on each of the four sides. Two small round windows or oculi are found at the roof level on each of the projecting central bays of the east and west sides of the building.</p> <p>The treatment of the walls is similar on all four sides of the building. The present new windows have frames of bronze-anodized aluminum and are double-hung sash with single panes of plate glass. Wooden panels are used on the upper parts of most windows. The basement and first-floor windows have plain granite lintels; those on the second floor have granite segmental arches and those on the third floor have curved arches of granite with keystones. The sills and lintels of the windows are continued as string courses all the way around the building, with the exception of the second-floor arches, which are separate. The architrave of the entablature also consists of a granite string course. Panel-brick detailing simulating triglyphs and metopes is used in the frieze above.</p> <p>The central bay of the main facade is distinguished by an entrance portico supported by granite columns with composite capitals. The double doors are approached by a divided granite staircase. Above the entablature is a triangular pediment, capped by the curved roof of the center pavillion.</p> <p>Although extensive exterior renovations have been done in the past year, the exterior of the Peabody City Hall remains very close to its original condition and appearance. These renovations included replacing the windows, pointing the brickwork and sandblasting the granite trim. The slate roof was replaced by asphalt shingling. The roof originally had copper cresting and oculi on the central and corner pavillions, and there was originally a balustrade above the central portico.</p>	

[continued]

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Page 1

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Massachusetts	
COUNTY	
Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

7. Description

In 1928 tracings were done by George A. Barnaby of the architect's original plans. These show a somewhat different treatment of the central bay with no portico and slightly different fenestration. The second-floor windows, like those on the first floor, were to have had plain lintels rather than arches. Modifications in these plans were apparently made by the architect at the request of the building committee.

Although there have been some remodellings, particularly on the basement level, the interior of the Peabody City Hall retains its 19th century character. The vestibule contains two curving staircases leading to the Auditorium above. On the first floor is a large hall, now the Council Chamber, measuring 42' by 60' and seating 500. The most significant interior feature of the building is, however, the Auditorium, which with stage and balcony, takes up the entire second and third floor levels. This Auditorium measures 102' by 70' with a minimum height of 33' and has a seating capacity of 1500. This hall has been allowed to deteriorate over the years, but it is in restorable condition. Of special interest are the remaining gas chandeliers; the balcony rail of cast iron finished with copper bronze; and the ceiling decorations done by Matthew L. Robinson of Boston, who also painted the original scenery and drop curtain.

8. Significance

Victoria sent a cablegram expressing the gratitude of her people for George Peabody's benevolence to her country. Included in the centennial activities was a banquet for 630 formally attired guests, who were served a variety of shellfish cooked five different ways, four kinds of fowl and game and three meat dishes, plus eight desserts and miscellaneous side dishes, after which a ball was held, affording much needed exercise.

The hall was used for many Essex County activities -- agricultural fairs, poultry exhibitions, teachers association conventions and Hibernian Society celebrations. In one peak year, as many as fifty organizations used the facilities, even including a show put on by the Kickapoo Indian Medicine Company to promote its remedies.

In 1916 Peabody became a city and shortly thereafter 1,500 citizens attended the inauguration of Peabody's first city government. The Great Hall was the scene of political rallies, church jubilees and in 1919, as part of the World War One Victory Celebration, 1,900 spectators watched boxing bouts. In 1922, 2,000 people attended a football rally. As the Great Hall seated only 1,500, some 400 or 500 spectators at these last events must have overflowed into the hallways outside. A high point in entertainment took place in 1936 when Governor James M. Curley was the featured speaker. In 1941 a large banquet in the hall climaxed the celebration commemorating twenty-five years of city government.

The Peabody High School graduation was held there for the last time in 1946, after which the final curtain fell on great events in the hall. At this time the State public safety officials prohibited the use of the Great Hall until extensive renovations could be made. As other, newer auditorium facilities in the city had already lessened the need for this space, city officials were reluctant to spend the money to rehabilitate it.

[continued]

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Page 2

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. Significance

Of course all town and city hall activity did not take place in the Great Hall as various forms of celebration and amusement. The serious business of a rapidly growing community was conducted in the city hall offices, while elsewhere drunks and tramps were being housed in the basement "transient quarters" and the City Council meetings were being held in the smaller hall on the first floor.

The Peabody City Hall is a fine and unusually well preserved example of late 19th-century civic architecture. The building is in the French mansard or Second Empire style, first used widely in this country in the 1860's and 1870's, although its continued use in the 1880's was not common. Boston's Old City Hall (1862-65) was undoubtedly the prototype as it was for so many other city and town halls near Boston during this period. Although the choice of the mansard style was a bit old-fashioned for the date (1883), the simplicity of wall surfaces and the absence of elaborate pilasters, moldings, etc. mark the building as belonging to the early 1880's. The panel-brick detailing in the entablature is also a characteristic feature in buildings of the 1870's and 1880's.

The architect, Rufus Sargent (1812-1886), lived in Newburyport for over forty years. His practice during the larger part of his life was primarily local and limited to Essex County and southern New Hampshire. Sargent appears to have been typical of the builder-architects of the period, whose work, in spite of a lack of formal architectural training, often shows remarkable sensitivity and sophistication. As Essex County and southern New Hampshire are more thoroughly surveyed, it will undoubtedly be possible to document his career more completely.

Today, with a population of over 48,000, the City of Peabody still appreciates and enjoys its City Hall. Rather than consider construction of a new building, they prefer to rehabilitate the existing one. To date, nearly \$200,000 has been spent on repointing the brick exterior, installing a new roof and reglazing the windows. Once the Great Hall area is strengthened and rebuilt for new usage and other areas reorganized, it can serve commodiously the city's purposes for at least another 100 years.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hurd, D. H., ed., History of Essex County, Vol. II, Philadelphia, 1888.

Statement of the Accounts of the Town of Peabody, for year ending January 31, 1883, Peabody, 1883.

The Peabody Press, May 3, 1882.

Wells, John, Historical Sketch of Peabody City Hall, 1971.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		42° 31' 35"	70° 55' 44"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Anne Wardwell, Survey Director		
ORGANIZATION Massachusetts Historical Commission, Office of the Secretary	DATE January 11, 1972	
STREET AND NUMBER: State House		
CITY OR TOWN: Boston	STATE Massachusetts	CODE 025

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Name _____

Secretary of the Commonwealth and
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Title Commission

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PRESENT CONDITION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Since the Town Hall has recently been renovated, its condition is very good. Future restoration of its original wrought iron cresting atop its three towers and the flagpole atop the main tower would bring back the building's full effectiveness as the seat of government and the City's principal civic structure.

More complete and well-considered landscaping of the front lawn areas would further enhance this imposing and significant building.

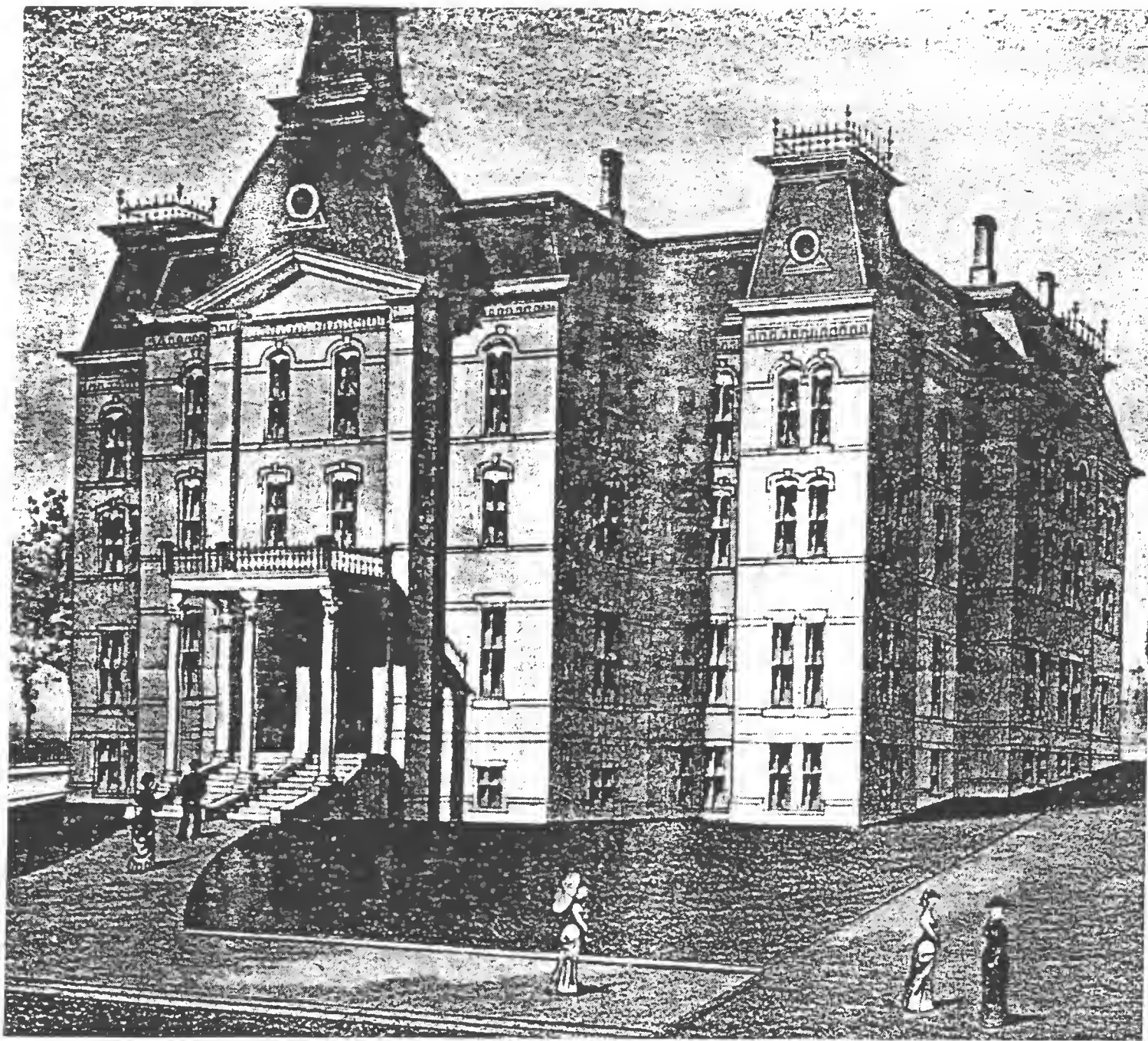


FIGURE 1

PEABODY CITY HALL

Courtesy of the Massachusetts Historical
Commission Files

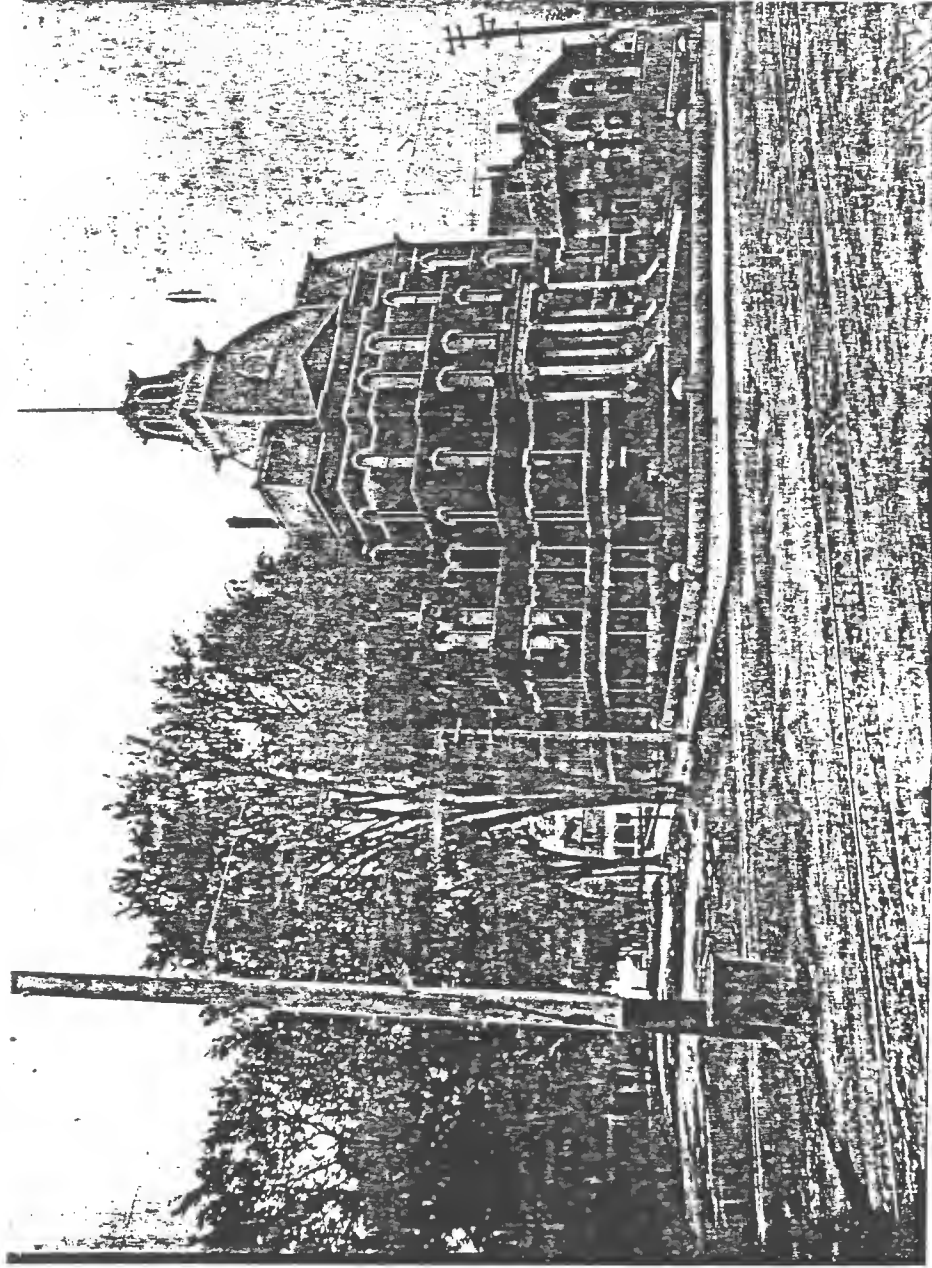
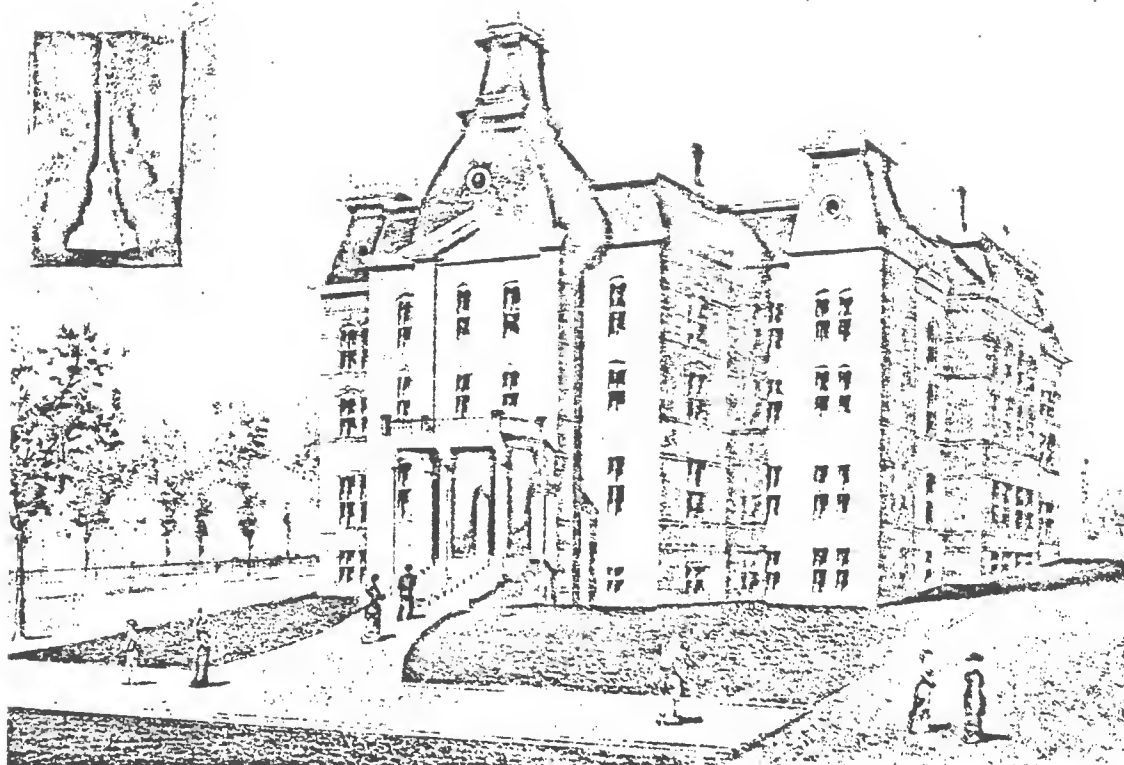


FIGURE 3

PEABODY CITY HALL undated photograph (ca. 1920)

Courtesy of the Society for the
Preservation of New England
Antiquities



Peabody City Hall and Civil War Monument
(upper left insert). Hallowell, Maine
granite was employed in both the con-
struction of the monument and the City
Hall (trim).

Courtesy of John A. Wells



Postcard courtesy of John A. Wells

FIGURE 4

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 16 - 20 Lowell Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER DiPlacido, Alfred P. and Ann T., trustees,
Florida Realty Trust of Peabody
- 2) HISTORIC NAME White and Fiske's Boot and Shoe Store
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial/residential
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1845
SOURCE Essex County Registry of Deeds, Book 372, leaf 232.
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF residential
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE mid-nineteenth century frame vernacular
- 2) MATERIALS:
FOUNDATION not visible
FACADE frame covered with shingles
TRIM wood (simple window enframements, thin corner boards)
VIEW FROM North PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 10 - 20 Lowell Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC needs minor repair
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES lack of maintenance
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF minor and reversible changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, governmental, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING compatible with character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Built in 1845¹, this simple two and one half story frame vernacular structure was long associated with Peabody shoe manufacturing. Its first owner was Major Lewis Allen.² He was the founder of Peabody's boot and shoe industry. His business was located in the Allen Block which is still extant on the northeastern side of Peabody Square. Allen leased 16-20 Lowell Street to White and Fiske's boot and shoe dealership from 1852 until the 1860's.³ By 1868 C.S. Nutter, occupation unknown, owned this property.⁴ His tenants during the 1870's and 1880's were W.L. and Ira Pray's boot and shoe store.⁵ By 1897 Peter O'Neil was the owner/occupant of this building.⁶ His "boot, shoe and rubber establishment" was located in the ground floor store from the 1880's until 1899.⁷ In 1910 L. Sinoi bootblack and J. Margolis shoe repair were commercial tenants in this building.⁸

From 1915 until 1950⁹ the boot and shoe businesses were replaced by a variety of commercial concerns. The roster of products sold from the small structure included bicycles, kindling, produce, radios, and pipes and tobacco. Since the late 1950's¹⁰ the City Hall Barber Shop has occupied the eastern storefront. Since the 1960's Albert P. Wentzell, optometrist has been located in the western portion of the building.

Footnotes

1. Essex South Registry of Deeds, Book 372, leaf 232.
2. Ibid.
3. Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Form prepared by Dan Doucette on 16-20 Lowell Street.
4. Essex County Atlas, 1868.
5. Danvers and Salem Directories, (Naumkeag), for the 1870's and 1880's.
6. Essex County Atlas, 1897.
7. Naumkeag Directories, 1886-7, 1899.
8. Naumkeag Directory, 1910.
9. Naumkeag Directory, 1915, 1918; Peabody Directory 1925-6, Polk's Salem Directory, 1930, 1940, 1950.
10. Polk's Salem Directory, 1960, 1970.
11. Polk's Salem Directory, 1960, 1970.

PRESENT CONDITION

16 - 20 Lowell Street's ground floor display windows are surrounded by modern brickwork and thin aluminum strips. Corrugated metal panels cover these windows' transoms. Commercial space has been augmented by a brick one story addition which projects from the western wall. The upper floors are swathed in aluminum siding. The fenestration of the main facade's upper floors has been extensively altered. Two small square louvered windows have replaced the second floor's original range of three asymetrically placed 6/6 windows. The siding covers the gable which once displayed a window. Thin wooden strips serve as corner boards and enframements for the side and rear windows.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A great deal is known about 16-20 and 10 Lowell Street's (to the east) original appearance thanks to their proximity to the Civil War Monument and the City Hall. They frequently appear in old photographs of these landmarks. Their high visibility in an important historic setting necessitates sympathetic surface treatments. Presently 16-20 Lowell streets ground floor is commendably free of obtrusive signage. It might be feasible to replicate its original storefronts. A circa 1920 photograph shows narrow vertical display windows enframed by piers and lintels of an undetermined material. It might be advisable to expose the wooden clapboards of the upper floors and reinstall second floor and attic windows similar to those of the side and rear walls.

Finally the overall appearance of the block between Chestnut Street and the railroad tracks might be enhanced by the removal of the neon and metal submarine shop sign which is situated on top of the single story storefronts between 16-20 and 10 Lowell Street.

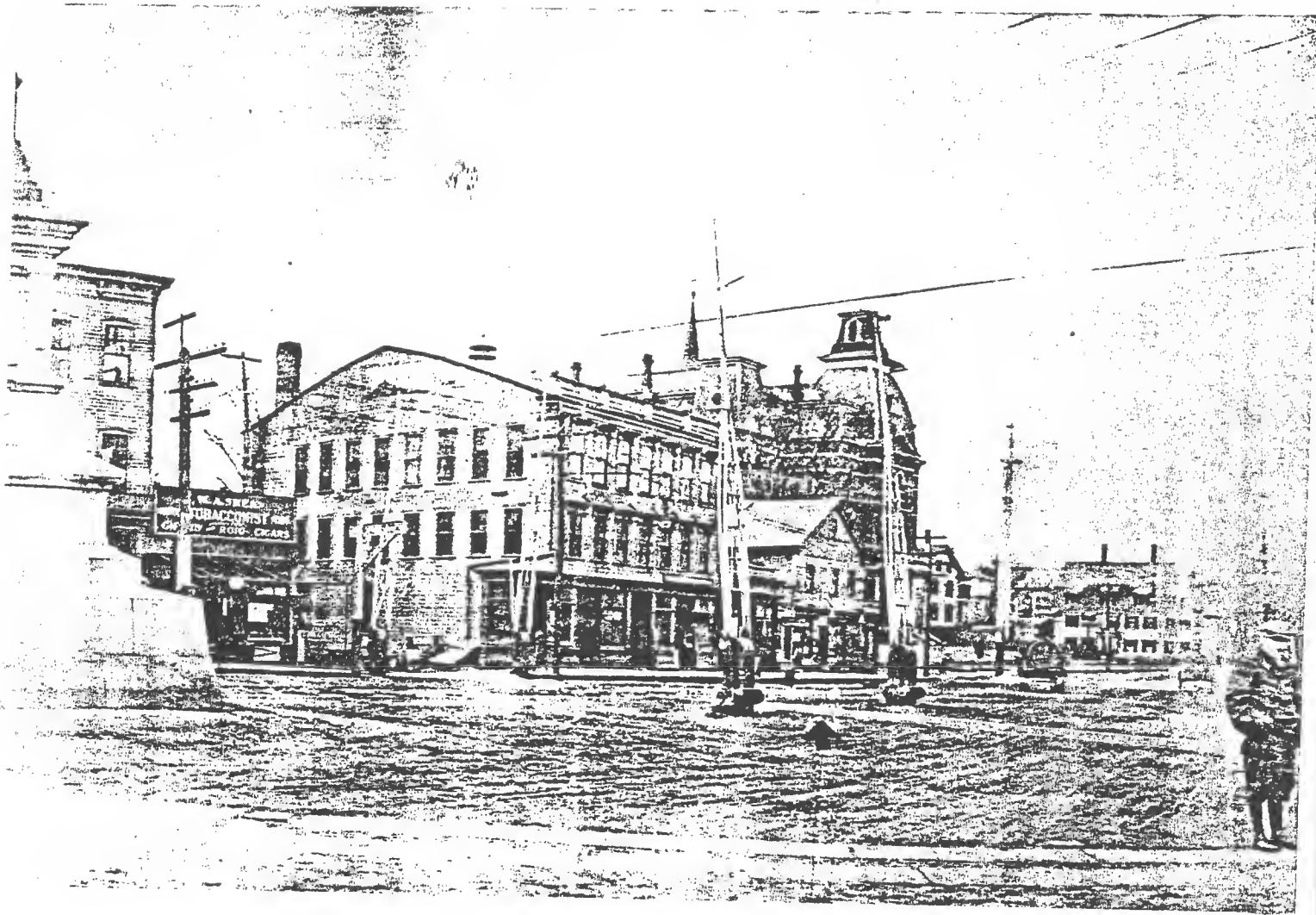


16-20 LOWELL STREET



FIGURE 1

Bailey and Hazen "Bird's Eye
View of Peabody", 1877



16-20 LOWELL STREET

FIGURE 2

Peabody Square 1915

Courtesy of the Peabody Historical
Society



FIGURE 3

16-20 LOWELL STREET
ca. 1920

Courtesy of Gordon Realty, Peabody



PEABODY SQUARE under water in the big flood of 1954 when Eastman dam burst.

16-20 LOWELL STREET
Peabody Square

FIGURE 4

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 10 Lowell Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER Gordon, David J., trustee, The David J. Gordon Trust,
24 Main Street, Peabody
- 2) HISTORIC NAME McGurn Block
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE ca. 1844 and ca. 1905
SOURCE Daniel Doucette, Peabody Historical Commission
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER Jonathan Dustin
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF commercial
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF commercial

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE _____
- 2) MATERIALS:
FOUNDATION granite rubble stone
FACADE aluminum siding
TRIM metal

VIEW FROM Northeast

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 10 Lowell Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC needs minor repair
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES _____
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF major but reversible changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES parking lot, governmental, commercial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING severely disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING focal point in area

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Few Peabody buildings have undergone a structural and stylistic evolution as complex as that of 10 Lowell Street. A frame structure built ca. 1844¹ is incorporated within the building's present form which dates to circa 1905. At some point in the early 1970's its walls were covered with aluminum siding and its fenestration was drastically altered.

The Great Fire of November 1843² destroyed buildings on the northern, western, and southern sides of Peabody Square. Shortly after the smoke cleared Jonathan Dustin added 10 Lowell Street's lot to his extensive Peabody land holdings. (Dustin's properties included the old Sun Tavern and the Dustin Block) On this lot he built a three and one half story frame structure. It had two unusual features - extremely steep roof slopes and an open porch which was located beneath a deep second floor overhang. (see Figures 1,2) Jonathan Dustin died in 1846.³ He left no will. His estate was divided among administrators, one of whom was Hazen Ayer.⁴ Ayer controlled 10 Lowell Street's lot for many years, under the name of the Dustin estate.

During the early 1850's Dane,Dole and Company's Grocery and Variety store⁵ was housed in Dustin's building. In 1855 two of the store's bookkeepers "formed a partnership and took over the business of their former employers".⁶ Samuel Newman was born in Peabody in 1810 and was educated at Phillips Academy, Andover.⁷ He and Symonds operated a store at this address until their retirement in 1886.⁸ Evidently their business was prosperous as Symonds left an estate valued at \$60,000 in 1906.⁹

The Newman and Symonds store's building was extensively remodeled between 1897 and 1915.¹⁰ Its circa 1905 structural changes included

raising its roof to produce a full third floor. The newly important facade thus created was enriched with Renaissance Revival window trim and capped with an impressive formal balustrade. The open ground floor porch was filled in with a pressed metal storefront. Presumably the frame two story addition which projected from the old store's eastern wall was removed at the time of the other structural changes. This frame addition last appears in the Essex County Atlas of 1897. 10 Lowell Street's early twentieth century "improvements" included the addition of a seventh window to the second floor.

The impetus for the old grocery store building's enlargement and dramatic stylistic transformation may have been the appearance of the first O'Shea (1905-05) and second O'Shea (1905-07) Buildings. These massive commercial blocks displayed surface decoration of a richness and quality unknown in Peabody before their completion. The Directories do not point to a particular tenant who might have been instrumental in effecting the remodeling.

Between 1910 and 1950 a wide variety of tenants leased space in this structure. These businesses included a Chinese laundry, tailors, a leather sales company, hairdressers and bootblacks.¹¹ This building also housed a meeting hall which was used by Faltus Mathew's Temperance Society in 1910.¹² Presumably the hall was located in the new third floor. It was called the Manchester Unity Hall during the 1920's and 1930's.¹³

10 Lowell Street was known as the McGurn Block during the 1920's and 1930's.¹⁴ It has been known as the French Building since the 1950's.¹⁵ It was remodeled again in the early 1970's. Its Renaissance window enframements and balustrade were removed and its clapboards were covered with white aluminum siding. The main facade's windows were reduced from a range of seven narrow windows to widely spaced rows of four windows with non-functioning shutters applied to their jambs.

Footnotes

1. Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Form written by Daniel Doucette, 1978.
2. Wells, John A., The Peabody Story, p. 256.
3. Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Form written by Daniel Doucette, 1978.
4. ibid.
5. Salem Evening News, February 15, 1902; p.8.
6. ibid., p. 8.
7. ibid., p.8.
8. Peabody Press, August 29, 1906; p. 11.
9. ibid., p.11.
10. The outline of the old store appears in the 1897 Essex County Atlas. The earliest photograph showing 10 Lowell Street with its Renaissance Revival treatments dates to 1915.
11. Salem Directories, 1910, 1918.
Peabody Directory, 1925-26.
Polk's Salem Directory, 1930, 1950.
12. 1910 Naumkeag Salem Directory.
13. Peabody Directory, 1925-26
Polk's Salem Directory, 1930.

14. This name appears on circa 1920's photographs of this structure in the collection of Arthur Gordon.
15. Polk's Salem Directory, 1950.

PRESENT CONDITION

This three and one half story building is completely covered with white aluminum siding. Its central entrance is flanked by display windows which are enframed by thin strips of metal. Above these windows are signs advertising a bookstore and a tavern. The Lowell Street facade's upper portion is four bays wide. Its windows have green metal shutters.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Although the strongly individual character of this historic building has been destroyed by its most recent remodeling, it could be improved as an element in the streetscape by being painted a dark color and having the ground floor stores and signage changed to relate more to the building as a whole.



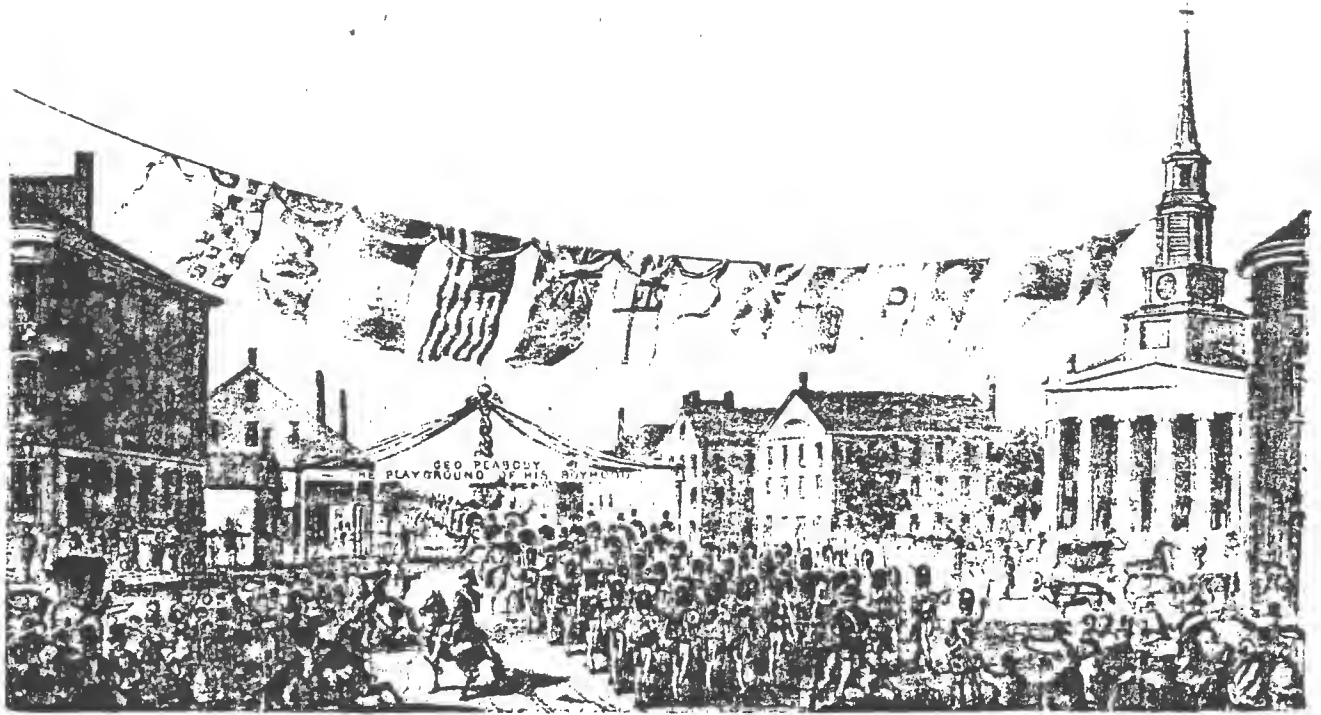


Photo by W. Allen

Peabody, Mass. 1855

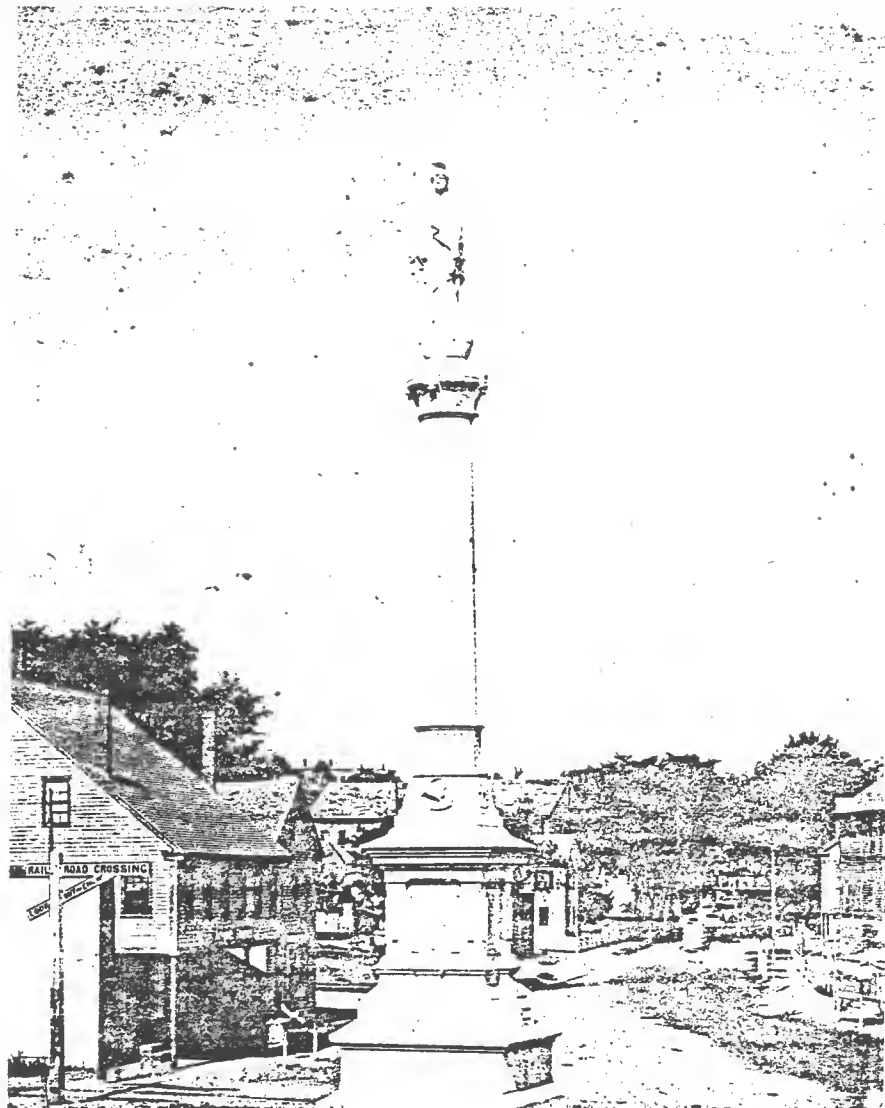
LOWELL ST. AND CONGREGATE CHURCH, PEABODY, MASS.



FIGURE 1

10 LOWELL STREET
mid-1850's

Courtesy of Peabody Institute
Peabody, Massachusetts



10 LOWELL STREET
ca. 1870's

FIGURE 2

Courtesy of the Peabody
Historical Society



FIGURE 3

10 LOWELL STREET - 1877 Bailey and Hazen
Bird's Eye View of Peabody

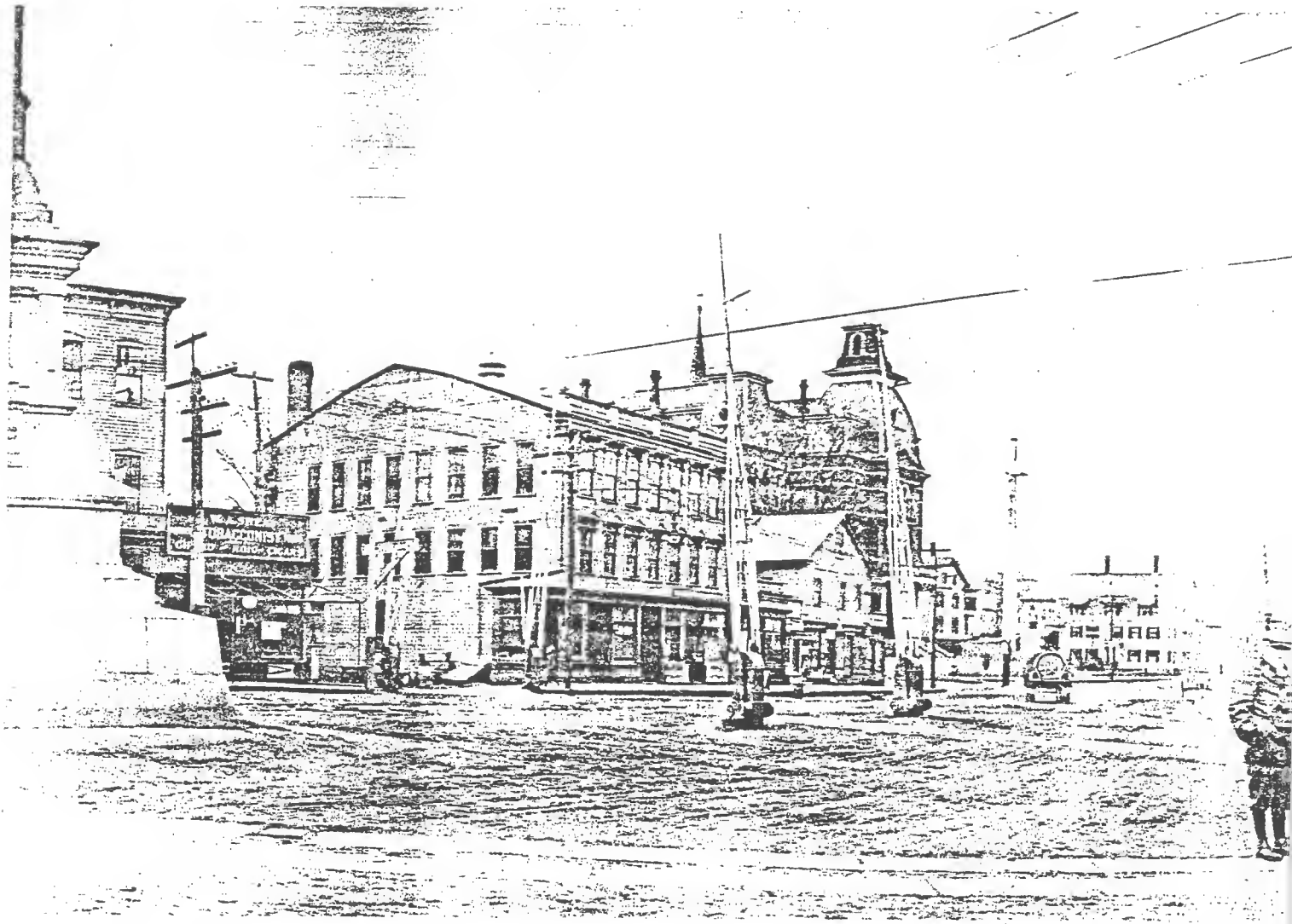
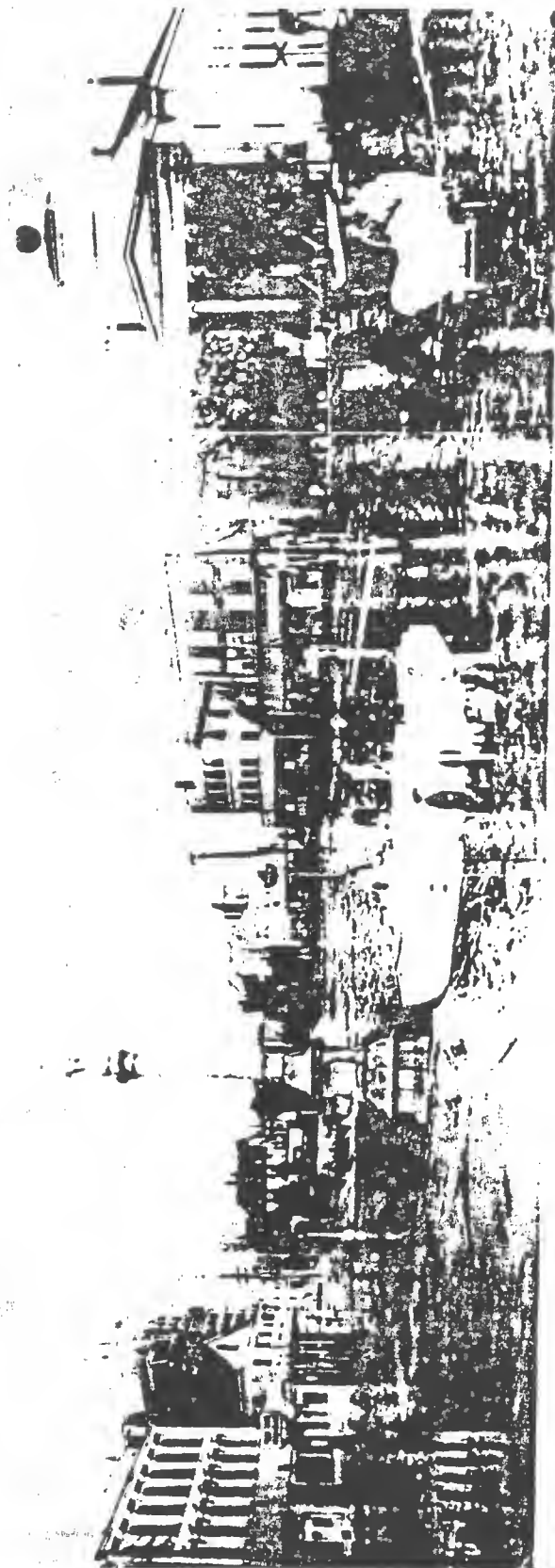


FIGURE 4

10 LOWELL STREET - 1915

Courtesy of the Peabody
Historical Society



10 LOWELL
STREET

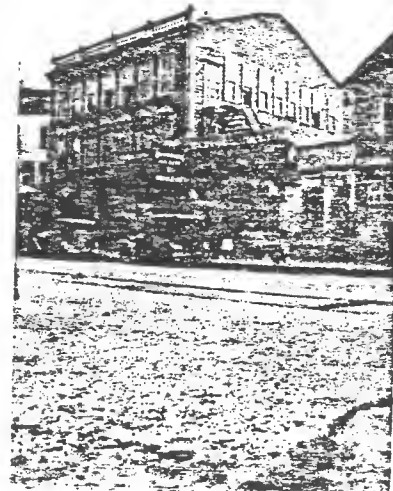
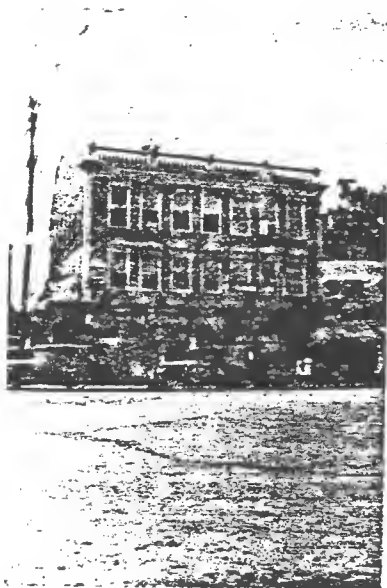
PEABODY SQUARE under water in the big flood of 1954 when Eastman dam burst.

FIGURE 5

from John A. Wells,
The Peabody Story, p. 428.



10 LOWELL
STREET



10 LOWELL STREET ca 1920

photographs courtesy of
Gordon Realty, Peabody, Mass.

FIGURE 6

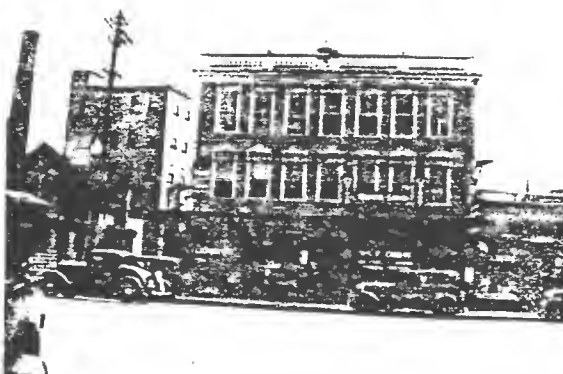


FIGURE 7

10 LOWELL STREET

Photographs courtesy of
Gordon Realty, Peabody, Mass.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The Municipal Parking Lot on the southern side of Peabody Square was once the site of a four story brick commercial building known as the Upton Block. Along with the Allen and Thomas Blocks (on the north-eastern sides of Peabody Square) it housed Peabody's major nineteenth century businesses. Built in 1852, it was named for Elijah S. Upton, an early pioneer of American glue manufacturing.

By the 1850's the glue industry was of considerable importance in Peabody, where there were three glue factories. Upton's Company was the nucleus of the famed American Glue Company. He began the manufacture of glue in Peabody in 1817. In the course of his career he "made many improvements in methods, and in the glue industry was among the first to grind glue for convenience in packing and use." By 1852 the prosperity of his company was such that he erected a commercial block at the corner of Foster Street and Peabody Square to house his office as well as rental space for commercial tenants. His building was distinguished by a curved northeastern wall that may represent a response to the curved wall of Major Lewis Allen's Block across the Square. A nineteenth century engraving shows a storefront enframed by what appears to be granite piers and lintels. The Upton Block originally culminated in linked chimneys and a ridge roof. (Figures 1, 2) It acquired a mansard roof circa 1870. (Figures 3, 4)

From 1852 until 1857 Francis Dane's shoe manufacturing business occupied a large portion of this building. Dane's career as a successful shoe manufacturer closely parallels that of Major Lewis Allen's rise from obscurity to business and civic leadership. In 1835, as a boy of fifteen, he journeyed from Hamilton, Massachusetts to Peabody. Upon his arrival he met John Osborn, a Peabody tanner, from whom he bought leather to make shoes. Osborn encouraged him to settle in the town, and by 1840 he was operating a shoe manufacturing business in Peabody. Dane was later one of the leaders in the movement for the separation of Peabody from Danvers in 1855. By 1851 he moved his business to Kilby Street in Boston. His shoe manufacturing concern became known nation wide, particularly in southern and western cities.

Until the early twentieth century the heirs of Elijah S. Upton owned the Upton Block. From 1855 to 1905 the Standard Thermometer Company had its headquarters in the Upton Block. This company specialized in "the manufacture of thermometers and electrical and mechanical recording devices." The Standard thermometer was used in cold storage warehouses, drying rooms, vacuum warehouses, tanks, etc. Its business was international in scope.

Renamed the Helios Upton Company in the late 1890's it moved from Peabody Square to Boston in 1904.

During the first half of the twentieth century a variety of commercial concerns were housed in the block before it was demolished in the 1960's.

Footnotes

1. All quotes, dates, etc. were taken from John A. Well's The Peabody Story.



PRESENT CONDITION

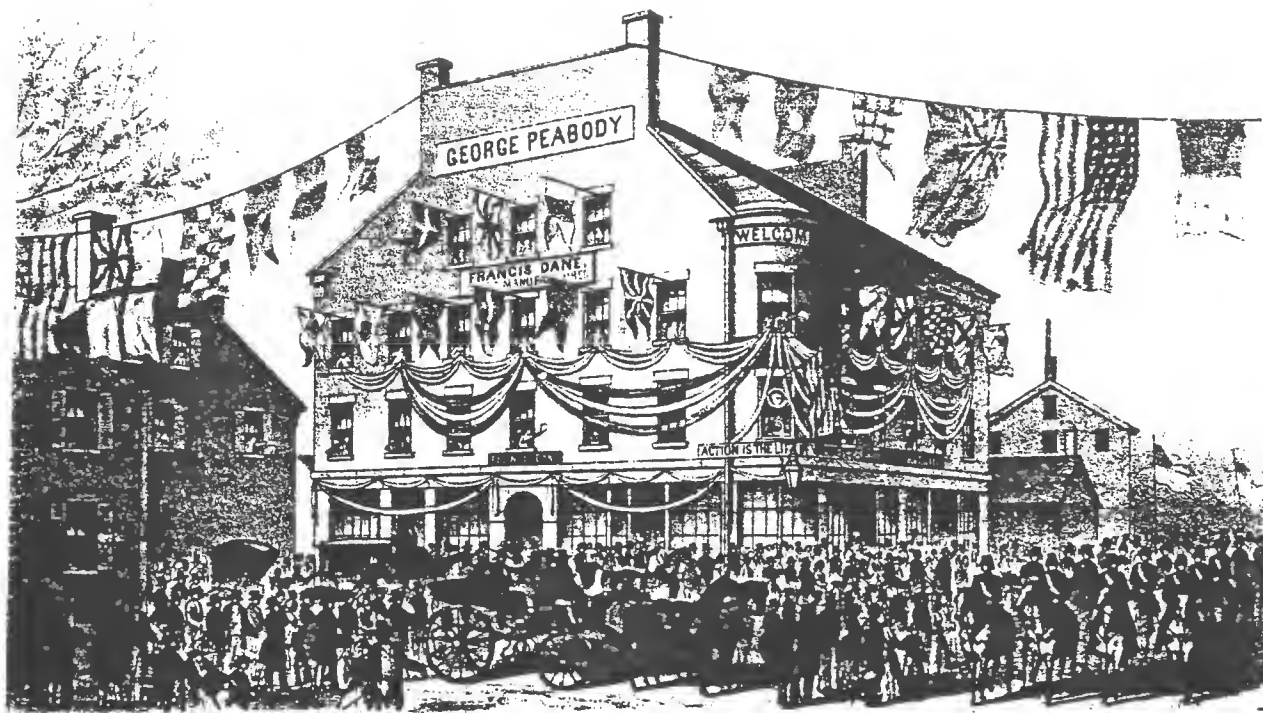
This corner site is presently covered with asphalt. It is used as a parking lot. (see photograph)

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

For many years the Upton Block was a major Peabody landmark. Its lot projected northward into Peabody Square, blocking one's view of the City Hall area. As one approached the Square from the east, along Main Street, one's attention focused on this block's brick mass, distinctive curved corner and mansard roof. (Figure 6)

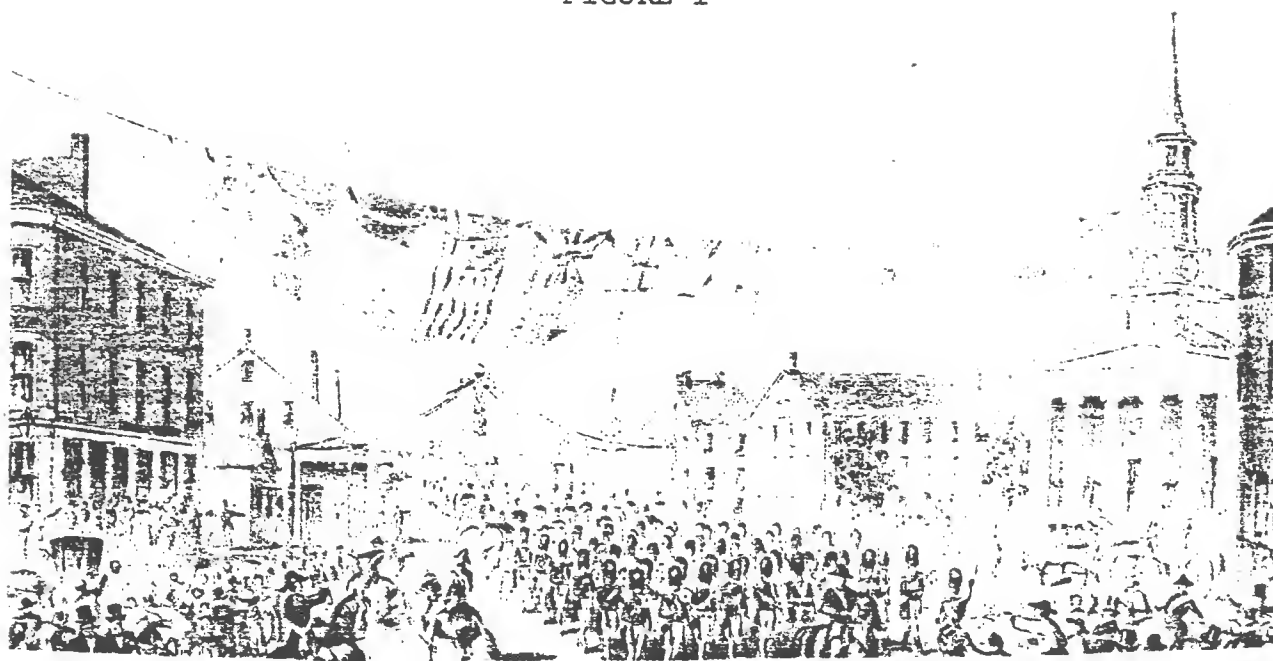
The Upton Block served as Peabody Square's southern anchor. It contributed to a sense of the Square having discrete boundaries, that it was a place set apart from the rest of the town.

Presently the Square lacks continuity. Several of its buildings have dissappeared or have been drastically altered. The Square's integrity as an enclosed space has been violated. Its appearance would undoubtedly benefit from the construction of a three or four story brick building on the municipal parking lot's key corner site. A more temporary measure might be hiding the view of the parking lot with a screen of trees along the lot's northern portion. A small park might be created in this area.



The Upton Block 1856

FIGURE 1



Upton Block

FIGURE 2

Reception for George Peabody, October 9, 1856

Courtesy of the Peabody Historical Society



FIGURE 3

The E.S. Upton Block from the 1877 Bailey and Hazen Birds-eye View of Peabody



FIGURE 4

The Upton Block, 1910
Courtesy of John A. Wells

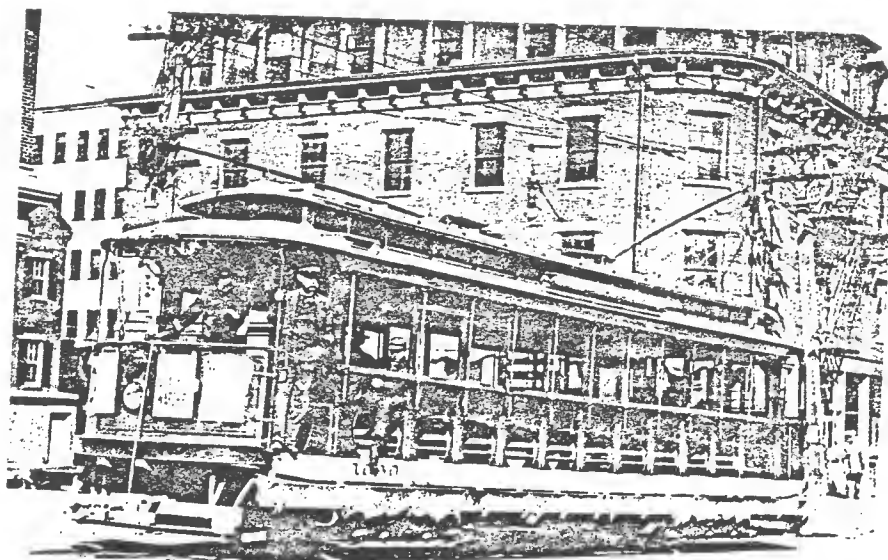


FIGURE 5

The Upton Block
 Courtesy of the Peabody Historical
 Society

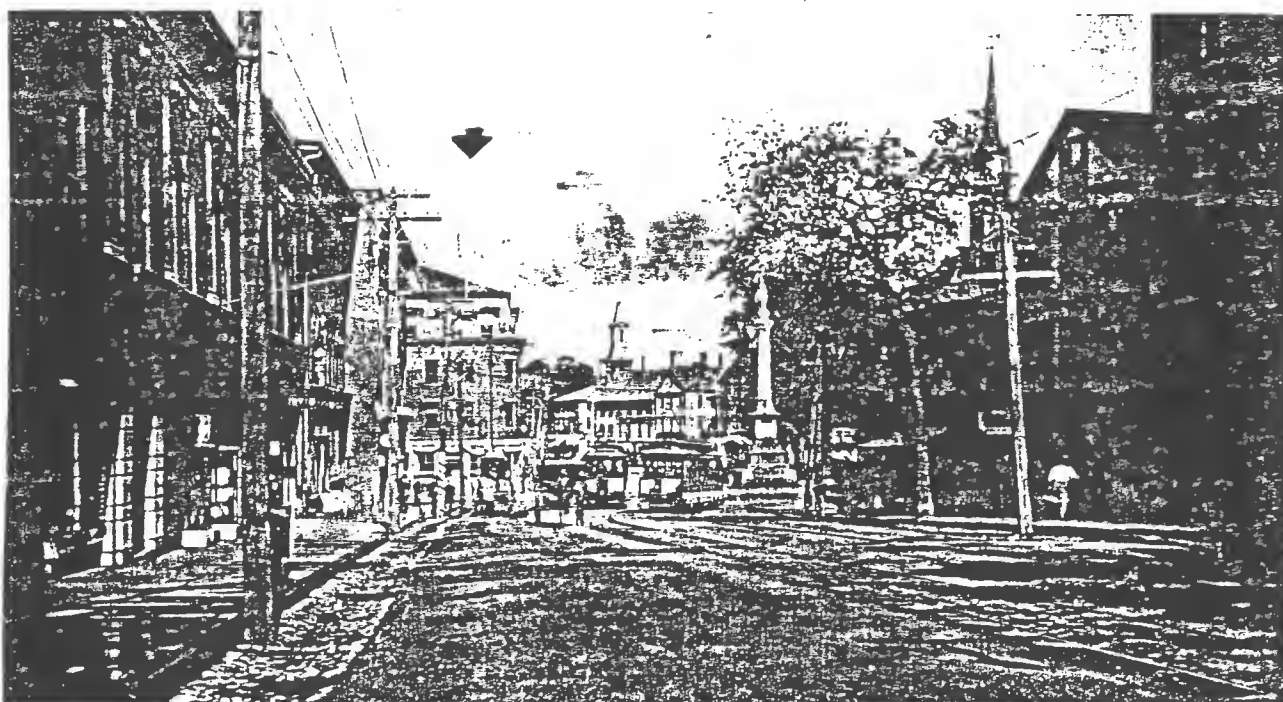


FIGURE 6

Upton Block

Main Street, looking west toward Peabody Square

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 16 Foster Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Petrovitsis, James S. and Elaine J.

11 Irving Street, Peabody

2) HISTORIC NAME American District Telephone Company

3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial/ residential

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE ca. 1900

SOURCE 1897 Essex County Atlas, Salem Evening News June 30, 1911

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF commercial

4) PRESENT USE: GF vacant UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE early twentieth century brick utilitarian

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION Not visible

FACADE GF- red brick UF- aluminum siding

TRIM roughly dressed granite sills

VIEW FROM West

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 16 Foster Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF intact with evolutionary changes
UF mjr but reversible changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING detracts from historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

16 Foster Street is located on the northeastern corner of Summer and Foster Streets. This corner lot is shown as undeveloped on late nineteenth century Peabody maps.¹ It was part of the Moses A. Shackley estate which included the Greek Revival dwelling still extant to the east. He bought this property in 1843 from Healey Morse and William Hart.² Shackley was the owner of the Peabody and Boston Rail Road Express.³

The present two story brick structure was built ca. 1900 by the A.H. Whidden and Son Co., Inc.⁴ The Whidden's hardware store was located on Main Street near Peabody Square (now the site of the Warren Five Cents Savings Bank.) The Whidden's Company also "provided a supervisory service for fire alarm, night watchmen and sprinklers in connection with Peabody and Salem manufacturing plants."⁵ This system included seven Peabody plants and two Salem plants. The headquarters for this system was "the brick fire proof building at the corner of Summer and Foster Streets".⁵

The American District Telephone Company leased the buildings in June of 1911.⁷ It was located at this address until 1949.⁸ For a brief period (1925-29) this building was also occupied by the Western Union Telephone Company.⁹

In recent years this structure's ground floor was occupied by the Hollywood Barber Shop.¹⁰ Its storefront is presently vacant. Presumably its upper floor contains apartments.

Footnotes

1. Essex County Atlas, 1868, 1872, 1884, 1897.
2. Essex County Registry of Deeds; Book 339, leaves 214-5.
3. Danvers Directory, 1873.

4. This structure does not appear on the map of Peabody in the 1897 Essex County Atlas. It is first mentioned in the Salem Evening News, June 30, 1911, p.5.
5. Salem Evening News, June 30, 1911, p.5.
6. ibid., p.5.
7. ibid., p.5.
8. Polk's Salem Atlas, 1948, 1949, 1950.
9. Peabody Directory, 1925-26.
Polk's Salem Directory, 1929, 1930.
10. Polk's Salem Directory, 1960, 1970, 1975.

PRESENT CONDITION

This two story building is constructed of brick. Its main facade's storefront features modern glass display windows enframed by thin metal strips. Access to the upper floor is provided by an entrance to the left of the storefront. A round arched entrance flanked by round arched windows appears on the Summer Street facade. The second floor is swathed in white aluminum siding. A pair of picture windows appear on the Foster Street facade's second floor. All of the upper floor's windows display metal awnings. This building has a ridge roof. An asphalt covered parking area is located to the rear of this structure.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The former American District Telephone Company is situated at the western edge of a neighborhood of handsome 1830's - 60's residences. Because of its proximity to this picturesque enclave it deserves surface treatments which are more in keeping with the historic character of the area. The white aluminum siding might be removed to reveal its brick fabric. To date no old photographs showing this building have been discovered. The storefront might be enhanced by reducing the size of the glass display windows with cast iron enframements. Multipaned transoms might also be installed above the display windows. This store is presently vacant.

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 12 Foster Street

1) CURRENT OWNER McNamara, Mabel T.

2) HISTORIC NAME Moses A. Shackley House

3) PROPERTY TYPE residential

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE ca. 1844

SOURCE Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 339, leaves 214-5.

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF residential UF residential

4) PRESENT USE: GF residential UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Greek Revival

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION brick

FACADE frame

TRIM wood window enframements, corner and freize boards

VIEW FROM West

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 12 Foster Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential, parking lot
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

During the early morning hours of September 22, 1843 the most devastating fire in Peabody's history leveled buildings on the north, west and south sides of Peabody Square.¹ The residence of Healey Morse,² which occupied 12 Foster Street's lot was consumed in the conflagration. Morse sold this lot to Moses A. Shackley in December 1843.³ Presumably the present two and one half story Greek Revival dwelling was built in 1844. Shackley was the owner of the Peabody and Boston Rail Road Express.⁴ His office was located on Mill Street behind the Sun Tavern. Members of Shackley's family lived in this house until the 1890's.⁵

Between 1905 and 1915 this dwelling was raised on to a brick and frame commercial ground floor. A photograph which may have been taken just prior to the second O'Shea Building's construction (1905) (figure 1) shows this structure without its commercial "pedestal". By 1915 it had been lifted on to its new ground floor (figure 2).

From 1910 until the late 1920's this structure contained a lodging house operated by Mrs. D. Brown and later Mrs. M.J. Aldrich.⁶ E. Kelley Co. Plumbers, Victor Masur Meats and Henry's Hairdressing Salon were tenants in this building in the 1930's and 1940's.⁷ Carl S. Nelson liquors occupied the ground floor from the early 1950's until 1972.⁸ McNamara's Package Store is the present ground floor tenant. The upper floors contain apartments.

Footnotes

1. Wells, John A., The Peabody Story, pg. 334-5.
2. ibid., p. 335.
3. Essex County Registry of Deeds, Book 339, leaves 214-5.
4. Danvers Directory, 1873.
5. Essex County Atlas, 1897.
6. Naumkeag Directory, 1910, 1918.
Peabody Directory, 1925-26.
7. Polk's Salem Directory, 1930, 1940.
8. ibid., 1950-72.

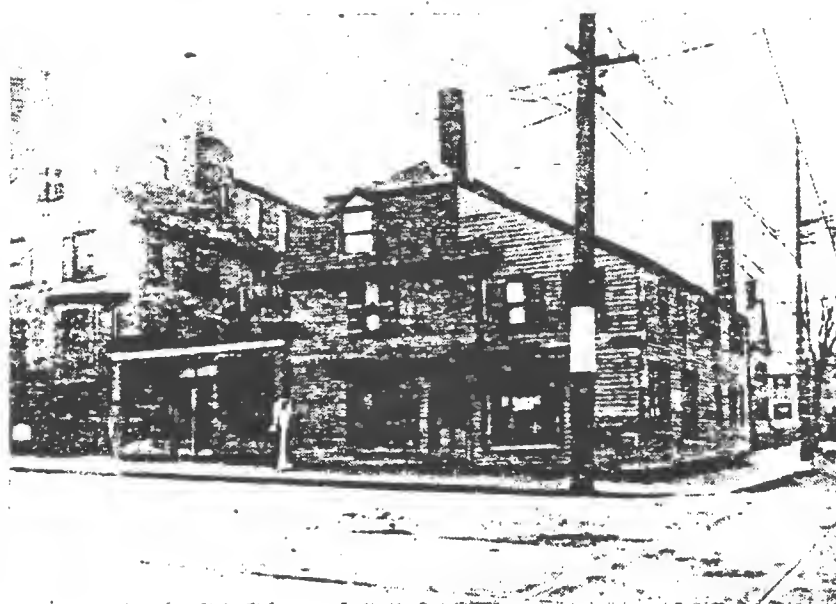
PRESENT CONDITION

12 Foster Street is a two and one half story frame Greek Revival dwelling which has been raised on to a brick and frame ground floor. The storefront displays wide modern display windows surrounded by multi-colored brickwork and thin metal strips. Above the storefront is a metal sign which reads, "McNamara's".

The upper floors of the main facade are four bays wide. Two windows appear in the center of the fully enframed, deeply recessed facade's gable. An L-shaped addition which was added between 1872 and 1897 projects from the northern wall.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This structure's main block is a fine example of a simple 1840's Greek Revival dwelling. The entire structure's appearance might greatly benefit from a remodeling of the storefront with materials which would harmonize with the fabric of the upper floors. This building's clapboards are in need of several coats of paint.



12 FOSTER
STREET

FIGURE 1

12 FOSTER STREET prior to being raised on
to a brick and frame commercial "pedestal".
Photograph ca. 1905. Courtesy of the
Peabody Historical Society.

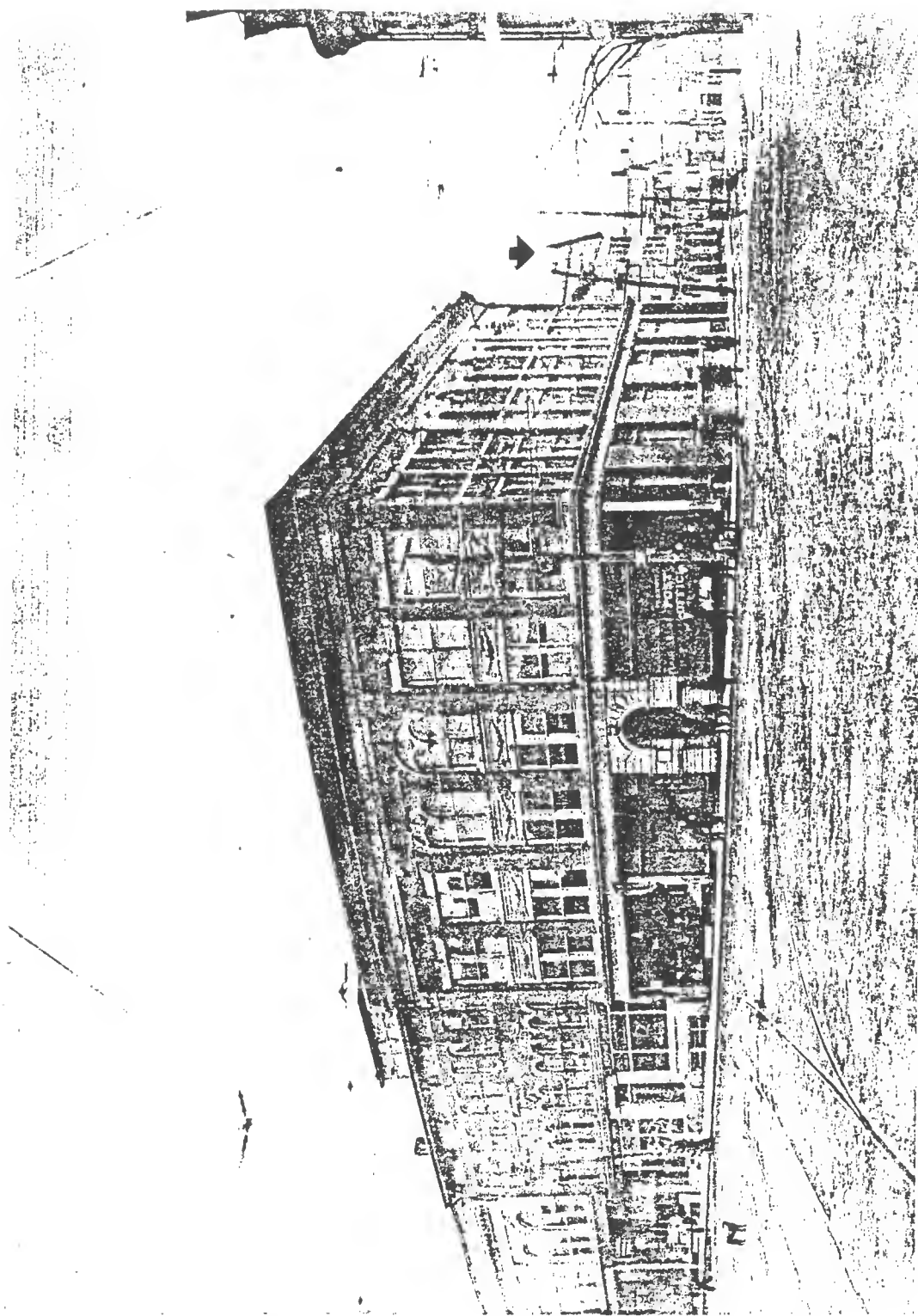


FIGURE 2 O'Shea Building No. 2
photograph dated 1915

12 Foster St.

Courtesy of the Peabody
Historical Society

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 10 Foster Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Alpers, Celia, 214 Lafayette Street

2) HISTORIC NAME Alpers Clothing Store

3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1874

SOURCE (Dan Doucette - Peabody Historical Society)
Essex Registry of Deeds, Book 926, leaf 242

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF commercial

4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF commercial

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE so denatured as to not be applicable.

2) MATERIALS:

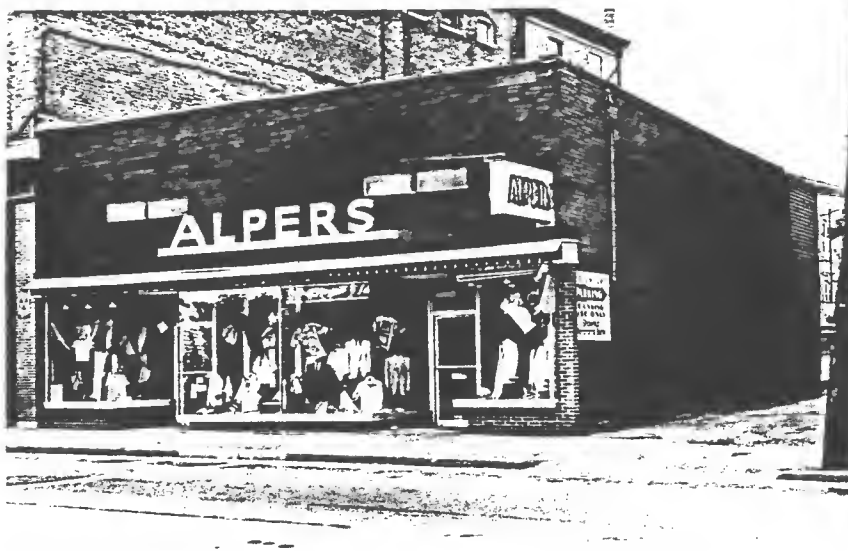
FOUNDATION not visible

FACADE wood clapboards covered by asbestos shingles

TRIM brick and metal window enframements

VIEW FROM Southwest

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 10 Foster Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF major but reversible changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential, parking lot
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING severely disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING detracts from historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

10 Foster Street was originally a three story frame commercial/ office building which was reduced to two stories at some point in the twentieth century. The outline of its missing upper story can be seen on the southern wall of the second O'Shea Building.

Built in 1874 this building was first owned and occupied by William Blaney.¹ He had a paint store on the ground floor of this structure.²

Since the nineteen teens the Alpers family has conducted its clothing business at this address.³

Footnotes

1. Essex South Registry of Deeds, Book 926, page 242.
2. Dan Doucette, Peabody Historical Society (previous Survey research - Massachusetts Historical Commission files.)
3. Salem Directories, (Naumkeag and Polk, 1915-1930).

PRESENT CONDITION

This two story frame structure is covered with asbestos shingles. It has been extensively altered and modernized. (See photographs)

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Alpers building is a remnant of a three story, late nineteenth century commercial block. Presently none of its late nineteenth century fabric is in evidence. A remodeling of the Foster Street facade might begin with the reduction of the display windows' size and the installation of rectangular 2/2 windows on the second floor. A balustrade surmounting the flat roof might give this building a more finished appearance.

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 9 - 13 Peabody Square

1) CURRENT OWNER Karavolas, Louis J., Square Realty Trust

29 Abington Avenue, Peabody, MA

2) HISTORIC NAME O'Shea Building No. 2

3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1905-April 1907

SOURCE see National Register Nomination

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER M.F. Burk of Lynn

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial

UF commercial

4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial

UF commercial

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Colonial Revival

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION not visible

FACADE red brick

TRIM limestone

VIEW FROM North

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 9 - 13 Peabody Square

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF Major but reversible changes
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING severely disrupted Historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to Historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

see National Register Nomination

MHC File Copy

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Second O'Shea Building

and/or common Name

2. Location

street & number 9 - 13 Peabody Square

not for publication

city, town Peabody

vicinity of

congressional district Sixth

state Massachusetts

code 025

county Essex

code 009

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Louis J. Karavolas, trustee, Square Realty Trust

street & number 29 Abington Avenue

city, town Peabody

vicinity of

state Mass. 01960

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. South Essex Registry of Deeds

street & number 32 Federal Street

city, town Salem

state Mass. 01970

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of Historic Assets of the
title Commonwealth #61has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date 1977

☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission, 294 Washington Street

city, town Boston

state Mass. 02108

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1905 - April, 1907 **Builder/Architect** M. F. Burk, architect (Lynn, Mass.)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Second O'Shea Building retains integrity of design, location, materials, and use as one of Peabody's major commercial blocks. Built in what contemporary sources called the Colonial style, the Second O'Shea Building was designed by M. F. Burk of Lynn, who may have been in partnership with Dana Sanborn, also of Lynn, at the time of the building's construction. With minor exceptions, the Second O'Shea Building remains in substantially original condition, and retains excellent carved limestone and pressed metal trim. The building was constructed by local tradesmen, including Kallock and Baner, masons; Abraham Lumus, carpenter; D. J. Mahoney, painter; J. D. Linehan, cellar and foundation builder; and Hamblett and Hayes Company, suppliers of hardware and metal ceilings.

AS originally laid out, the Second O'Shea Building contained a mixture of commercial office and club-house space. In 1907, the building's basement contained bowling alleys; the first-storey was occupied by Peter Valente, fruit dealer; J. W. Trask & Co., grocer and provisioner; and the Peabody Post Office. Offices in the block were occupied by F. W. Miller, dentist; B. G. Hall, lawyer and judge in the city's police court; William Dustin, tailor; T. F. McLaughlin, barber; and the South Danvers Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Lodge room on the third floor remained vacant at the building's opening. Since 1907, the Second O'Shea Building has remained in constant use for a variety of commercial ventures.

The building's original owner was Thomas O'Shea, a wealthy local manufacturer of morocco leather. Although his principal wealth came from manufacturing, O'Shea turned his interests toward real estate with the construction of the First O'Shea Building in Peabody Square in 1903-1904. With the completion of the Second O'Shea Building, O'Shea had invested \$200,000 in two of the largest commercial blocks in Peabody Square, both of which served as important additions to the town center's commercial development.

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Second O'Shea Building is located in Peabody Square at the southeast corner of Main and Foster Streets. The building has Colonial Revival Style facades on Main Street (north) and Foster Street (west); its east and south elevations are partially blocked by neighboring commercial structures. The Second O'Shea Building has a rectangular plan (70' x 119') and rises three-stories to a flat roof. Facades are built of "Philadelphia red face brick" and are trimmed with limestone and pressed metal.

The north elevation is six-bays wide; at its first storey, this elevation contains storefronts in all bays, except the fourth from the east which contains the building's main entry. Storefronts follow their approximate original configurations, but have been altered both by the substitution of aluminum for copper-clad wood trim and by the covering of original iron columns with aluminum sheathing. Modern signs partially obscure, but have not damaged an original, pressed metal entablature and cornice which separate the storefronts from the second storey. The main entry is set in a rusticated limestone surround with an entablature and cornice; the frieze of the entablature bears the words "O'SHEA BUILDING" in raised letters.

The north elevation's second and third stories are symmetrical and are framed by four brick pilasters into three panels of two bays' width each. These pilasters rise from moulded limestone bases to Ionic limestone capitals, which, in turn, support a pressed metal entablature and deep cornice with dentils and modillions. Above the cornice is a brick parapet. At the second storey, each bay contains paired 1/1 windows; above each pair of windows is a panel of pressed metal, embossed with a floral swag. Windows of the third storey's outer two bays at each end consist of paired 1/1 sash capped by splayed limestone lintels with keystones. Windows of each of the third storey's central two bays are made up of paired, 1/1 sash set in a high arched surround with a limestone architrave and console keystone. Set within each stone arch is a metal panel embossed with a single wreath and garlands. Centered beneath the cornice is a limestone plaque bearing the date "1905" in raised numerals.

The west elevation also consists of an asymmetrical first-storey surmounted by symmetrically arranged second and third storey elevations. The first storey contains four unevenly spaced window openings, each of which contains paired, fixed panes of plate glass surmounted by leaded glass transoms. Toward the south end of the west elevation are two entries, separated from one another by a window opening (described above). At the top of the first storey is a pressed metal cornice which serves as the base for four pilasters which divide the elevation into three panels; these, in turn, support a deep metal cornice. All of these features are identical to corresponding features on the north elevation. Fenestration consists of two stacks of paired windows separated by a stack of single windows in each of the west elevation's outer panels. These paired windows are identical to those of the outer four bays of the north elevation, while the single window stack rises from 1/1 sash (second storey) to an embossed metal panel and to 1/1 sash surmounted by a limestone lintel with keystone (third storey). The west elevation's central panel contains two stacks of paired arched windows and a total of three stacks each rise from 1/1 sash (second storey) to an embossed metal panel and to 1/1 sash set in an arched frame with a limestone keystone (third storey). Alterations to the west elevation are limited to the block of some windows and the addition of modern signs.

9. Major Bibliographical References

"Peabody Correspondence," Salem Evening News, April 12, 1907.

John A. Wells, The Peabody Story, Essex Institute, Salem, MA., 1973,
pp. 279, 344, 378, 380-381, 384, 408.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 7,360 sq. ft.

Quadrangle name Salem

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	9
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3	4	1	6	7	0
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4	7	0	9	7	2	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Property at 9-13 Peabody Square, Peabody, bounded as follows:

North by Peabody Square; East by property of Shawmut Merchants Bank, N.A.;

South by property of Alpers; West by Foster St. Also, please refer to the attached assessor's map

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Brian Pfeiffer, Consultant John Wells, Chairman
Peabody Historical Commission

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date October, 1979

street & number 294 Washington Street telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston, state Massachusetts

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Peter R. Weschowski 1/4/80

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES 1906 - April, 1907 BUILDER/ARCHITECT M.F. Burk (Lynn, Mass.)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Shortly after the completion of his first commercial block on Main Street, wealthy young morocco mannufacturer Thomas H. O'Shea set out to build another edifice on land he owned at Foster Street and Peabody Square.

O'Shea's fortune came from a thriving business in the manufacture of India goat skins and sheep skins. This was further supplemented at the time of the completion of the second O'Shea Building by an obvious skill at real estate speculation. A total expenditure of \$200,000. went into the two O'Shea Buildings, a rather tidy sum even at that time. Only the property of the Warren Bank (now the offices of the Merchants Bank) kept the young O'Shea from owning the entire block on that side of Peabody Square, from Foster Street to Nichols' Lane. Notwithstanding that obstacle, the two buildings that were erected sttod as a monument to his industriousness, and his business skill.

This building's past reveals a similar mix of commercial and service tenants as can be found today. Original tenants were: four bowling alleys located in the basement, some public, others private; Peter Valente, fruit dealer, who shared his ground floor room with the street car waiting room; J.W. Trask & Co., grocer and provisioner; the Post Office, who had been in many other Peabody Square locations before this, and in more later; Dr. F.W. Miller, dentist; lawyer B.G. Hall, who was also a trial judge and former judge in the police court in the basement of City Hall; the South Danvers Mutual Fire Insurance Company; William Dustin, tailor and T.F. McLaughlin, barber. Lodge rooms on the third floor had not been rented at the opening of the building.

Again, as with the first O'Shea Building, local tradesmen were patronized in the construction of the building. Peabody contractors were: Kellock & Bomer, masons; Abraham Lumus, carpenter; D.J. Mahoney, painting; celler and foundations by J.C. Linehan and metal ceilings and hardware by Hamblett & Hayes Company. Lumus, Hamblett & Hayes Company and Linehan repeated in 1907 the work they had performed in the first O'Shea Building just over three years earlier.

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The second O'Shea building in Peabody Square shows a complementary design with the first building built three years earlier. M.F. Burk of Lynn had designed the first with a Mr. Sanborn, but executed the design of this building alone, also supervising the construction once the designs had been completed.

From a description written at the time of its opening, the new O'Shea Building was described as Colonial in style, yet many Victorian features are found. Its exterior is constructed of Philadelphia red face brick, with limestone trim and decorated metal recessed panes between second and third floor windows, the panes set into the facade of the Foster Street and Peabody Square frontage.

Ground floor stores retain little original features. Outdoor woodwork, originally covered by copper for durability, has long since been replaced by plate glass and metal storefronts. The corner column at the restaurant (covered with shiny rolled steel in the 1930s) and the columns on either side of the Goodwill store are original. The lintel is particularly noticeable along the Foster Street frontage, yet less evident along the Peabody Square frontage.

Upper floors are framed by the lintel and a massive cornice, with dentil. Pilasters with limestone brackets below the cornice separate these upper floors into distinct bays. Metal recessed panels, highly decorative in design, mark each floor within these bays. Limestone arches surmount 2 arched double hung windows in two sections on each side of the structure. The keystone in each arch matches that above the main entrance on Peabody Square. Each bay contains two sets of double hung windows on upper floors, with limestone caps containing a simple keystone. The Foster Street facade contains extra sets of windows: a single square set between the double square sets on either end of the facade, and three arched sets surrounding the set in the center. The latter set has no surmounting arch, yet has a simple keystone set in the brick above the windows.

The main entrance to the building has a limestone trim surrounding the door, with a simple arch containing an elaborate keystone. The entrance has a ceramic floor, marble base and oak paneled dado. The stairs are of iron with marble treads and rises.

The second floor was designed around a 136 x 41 foot large dance hall with anterooms, suggested at the building's opening to be "model club quarters." The post office, with rooms at the corner of the first floor, had a sorting room for letter carriers on this floor.

The third floor was intended for lodge quarters and built for that purpose. On the Main Street side was a partitioned banquet hall, 30 x 71 feet in size, with a kitchen further back. The main lodge room was 51 x 45 1/2 feet large, with anterooms on the Foster Street side

PRESENT CONDITION

The Second O'Shea Building appears to be in sound condition, lacking only routine maintenance such as painting of its wood and metal exterior trim. The ground floor on the Foster Street side suffers from having had new brick walls and windows built without any relationship to the elaborately composed piers, pilasters, panels and windows of the second and third floors.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This building occupies successfully one of the key corners which enclose Peabody Square. While the Morgie's signage seems to fit the building the other signs should be improved. Appearance of the second and third floor windows could be greatly improved by use of uniform curtains, and signs in this area would be better painted on the window glass. Restoration of the metal pier at the corner and more appropriate signage for the corner restaurant would help restore the building's dignity and importance.

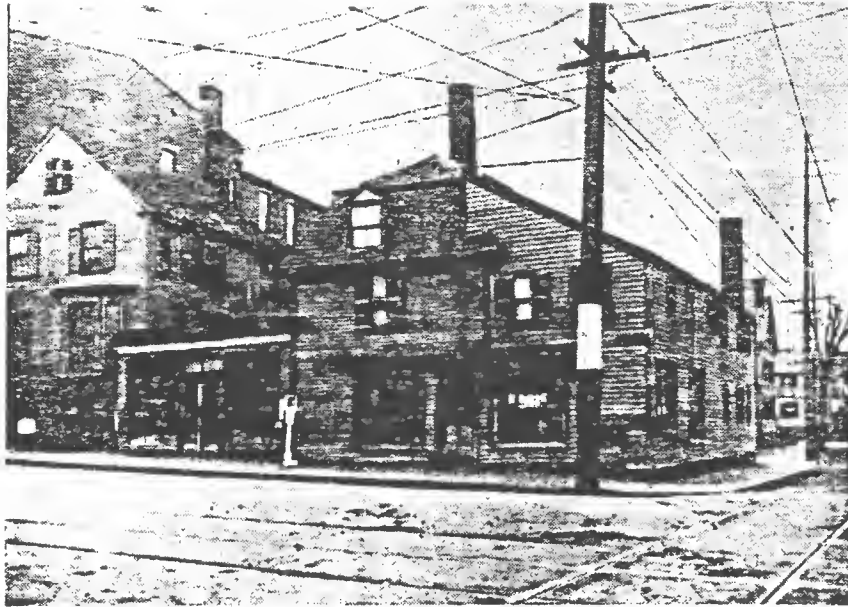


FIGURE 1
Courtesy of the
Peabody Historical
Society

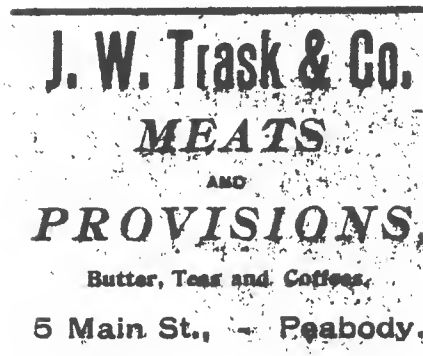


FIGURE 2
Advertisement in
Naumkeag Directory
of 1908

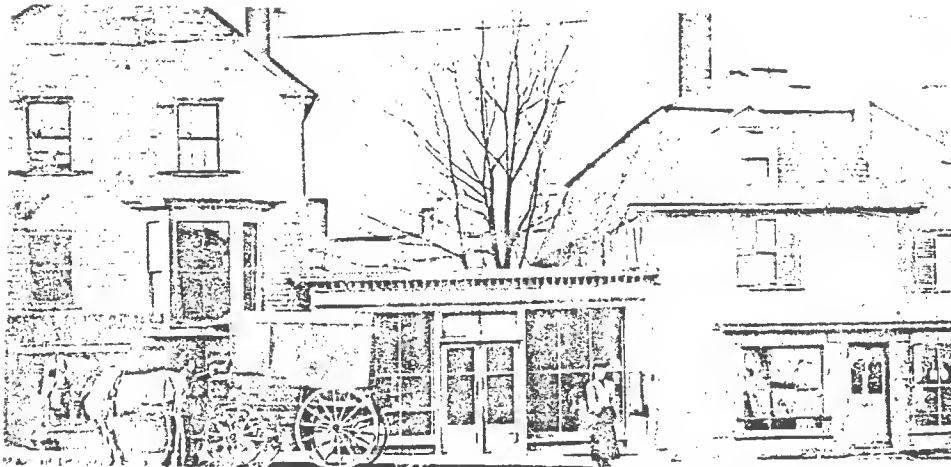


FIGURE 3
Courtesy of the
Peabody Historical
Society

J.W. Trask & Co., Meats and Provisions

Birthplace of Gen. Gideon Foster of the Danvers Men in the Battle of Lexington



FIGURE 4

Site of O'Shea Building No. 2



FIGURE 5

1910



O'Shea Building No. 2 1910

Postcards courtesy of John A. Wells

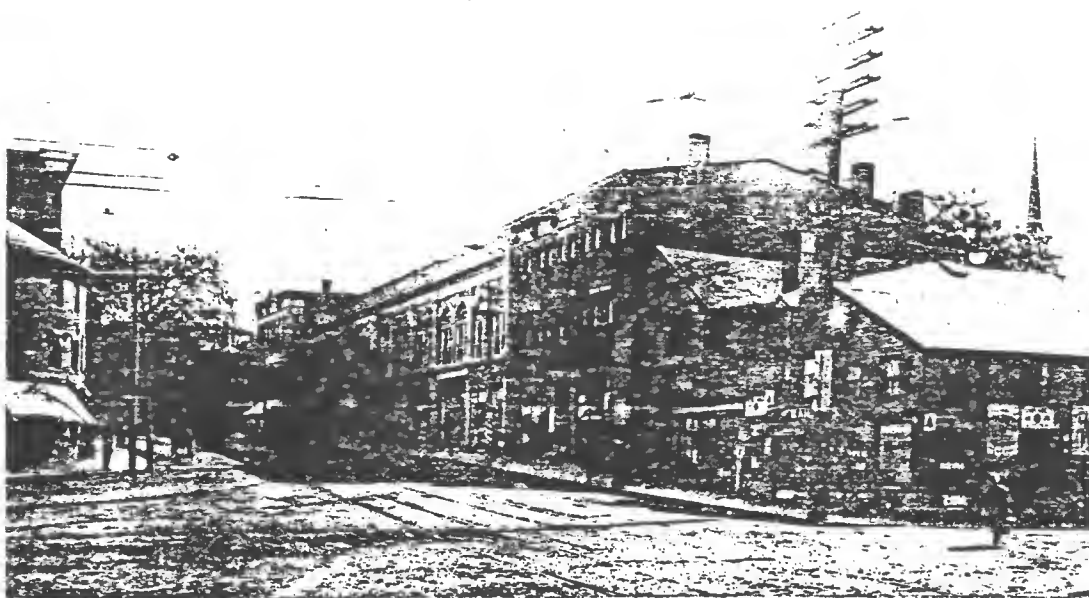
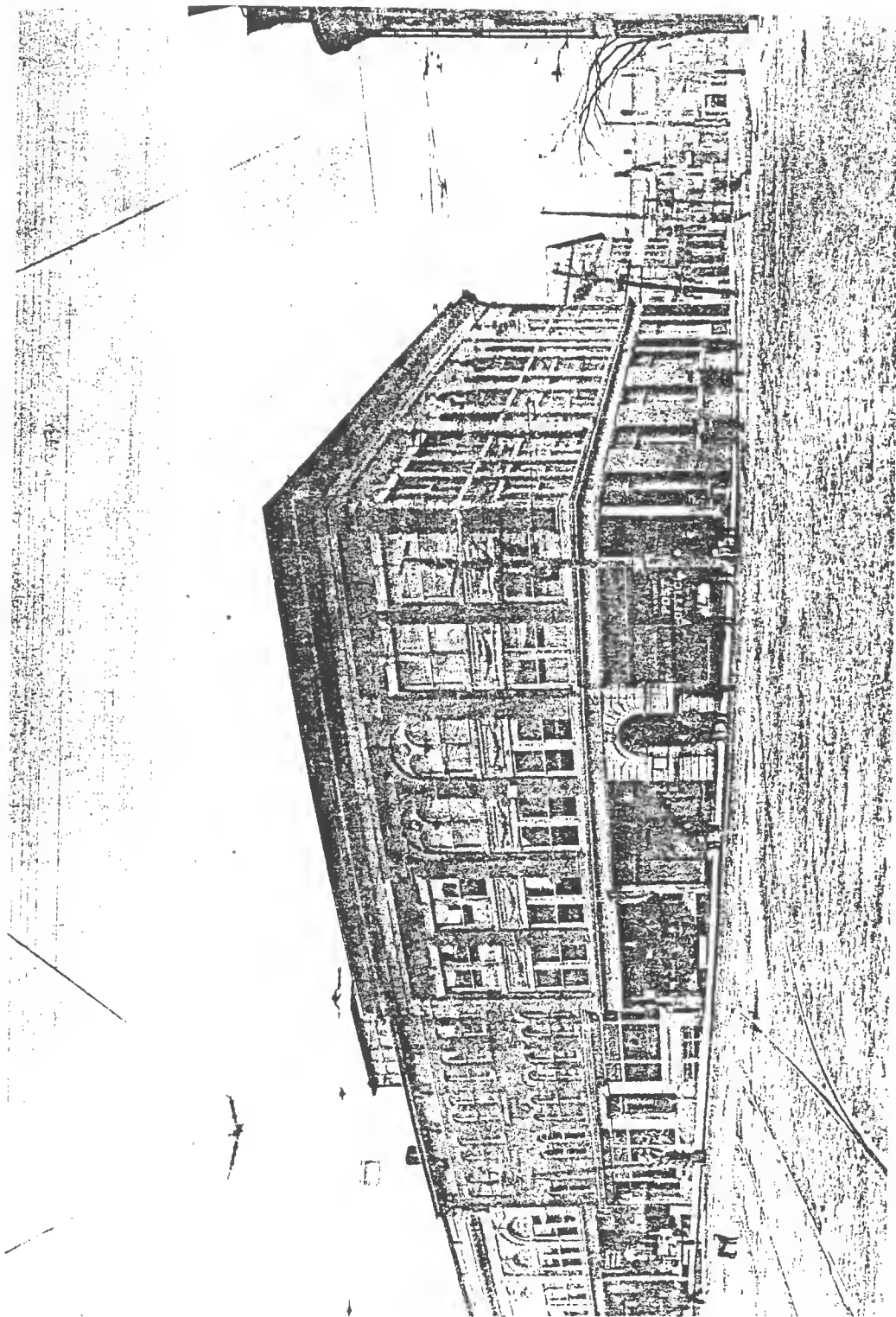


FIGURE 6

Site of O'Shea Building No. 2, Corner of Peabody Square
and Foster Street

Photograph courtesy of the Peabody
Historical Society



O'Shea Building No. 2
photograph dated 1915, courtesy of
Peabody Historical Society

FIGURE 7

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 17 Peabody Square

1) CURRENT OWNER Shawmut Merchants Bank, N.A.

2) HISTORIC NAME Shawmut Merchants Bank

3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1854, remodeled 1917, early 1960's

SOURCE John A. Wells, The Peabody Story

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF commercial

4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF commercial

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Georgian Revival

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION Not visisble

FACADE GF- limestone, redbrick stretcherbond. 6/6 DH sash 2 & 3 fls.

TRIM white limestone banding, pediment enframement, etc.

VIEW FROM Northwest

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 17 Peabody Square

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF intact with evolutionary changes
UF intact with evolutionary changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The Shawmut Merchants Bank is housed in the old Warren National Bank Building. This three story brick structure was built in 1854.¹ Its Peabody Square facade originally displayed handsome Italianate surface treatments (fig. 2). Its present brick and limestone Colonial Revival main facade dates to 1917 and early 1960' remodelings.

The Warren National Bank, Peabody's second bank, was incorporated in 1832 with a capital of \$250,000. Named for General Joseph Warren who was killed at the Battle of Bunker Hill, the bank was first located in the Allen Block. (fig. 1) Jonathan Strove, a prominent Peabody tanner, was the bank's first president.

By 1854 the directors of the Warren National Bank acquired the present bank's lot on the southern side of Peabody Square for \$4,000. The directors allocated \$8,000 for the construction of the bank's building.

Opened for busness in 1855 the new building housed the Warren Five Cents Savings Bank as well as the Warren National Bank. Both banks shared the same room on this building's second floor. John A. Wells notes that "at that time both banks operated in the same room with the clerk waiting on customers of either bank." The first floor was initially occupied by stores.

The Warren National bank moved to the first floor in 1874. By 1890 it once again shared a banking room with the Warren Five Cents Savings Bank. This arrangement was shortlived as a law was instituted requiring both banks to use separate quarters. In 1907 the Warren Five Cents Savings Bank moved to its present location at 10 Main Street.

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the bank building's upper floors were occupied by Charles A. Burdett, the founder of

Burdett Business College, the Jordan Lodge of Masons and the Peabody Historical Society.

In 1917 the old Italianate bank was remodeled "at ten times the original cost of its 1854-55 construction." The old bank had another 'facelifting' in the 1960's at a cost of \$15,000. The Warren National Bank's last director, before it merged with the Merchants Bank of Salem, was Harry Trask. He served as director from 1933 until the 1960's. Presently the bank is associated with the National Shawmut Bank of Boston.

Footnotes

1. All dates, statistics, quotes, etc. taken from John A. Wells' The Peabody Story, pages 280-281.

PRESENT CONDITION

The remodelings of this building's facade are irreversible. The rear 1854 brick exterior walls have not been altered and still display rock faced granite sills and lintels.

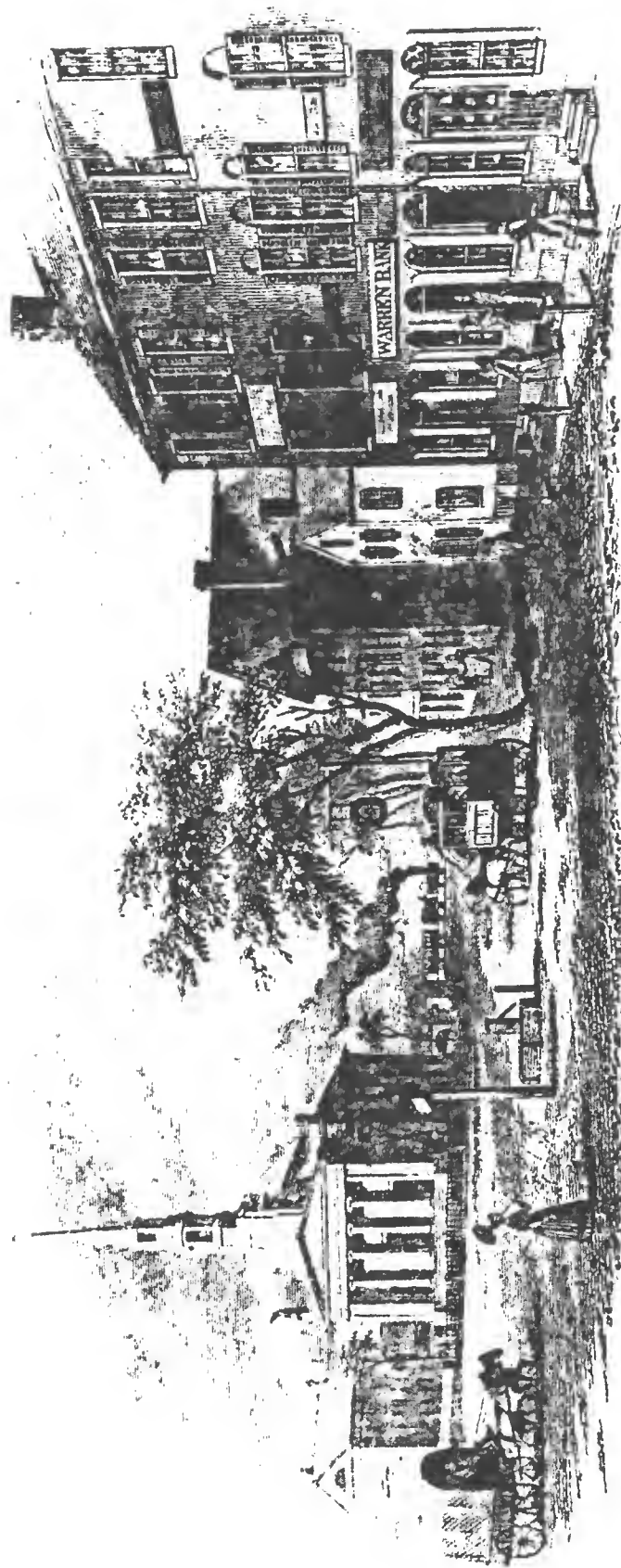
EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The area to the rear of the Shawmut Merchants Bank building and the first O'Shea Building may have potential as a park. This long rectangular area is shielded from the activity of Main Street by these commercial structures. Nichols Lane provides access to this area which is presently used for parking.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION

Neo Georgian

red stretcher bond brick
white limestone 1st floor
old building evident in rear



ALLEN BLOCK

PEABODY SQUARE in 1848 copied from back of Warren Bank bill. View shows last South Church on the square (1844-1960); Ashland building (Klemm's Bakery) next to church; Allen block with bank before enlargement; Lewis Allen residence; and Dustin Hotel.

FIGURE 1

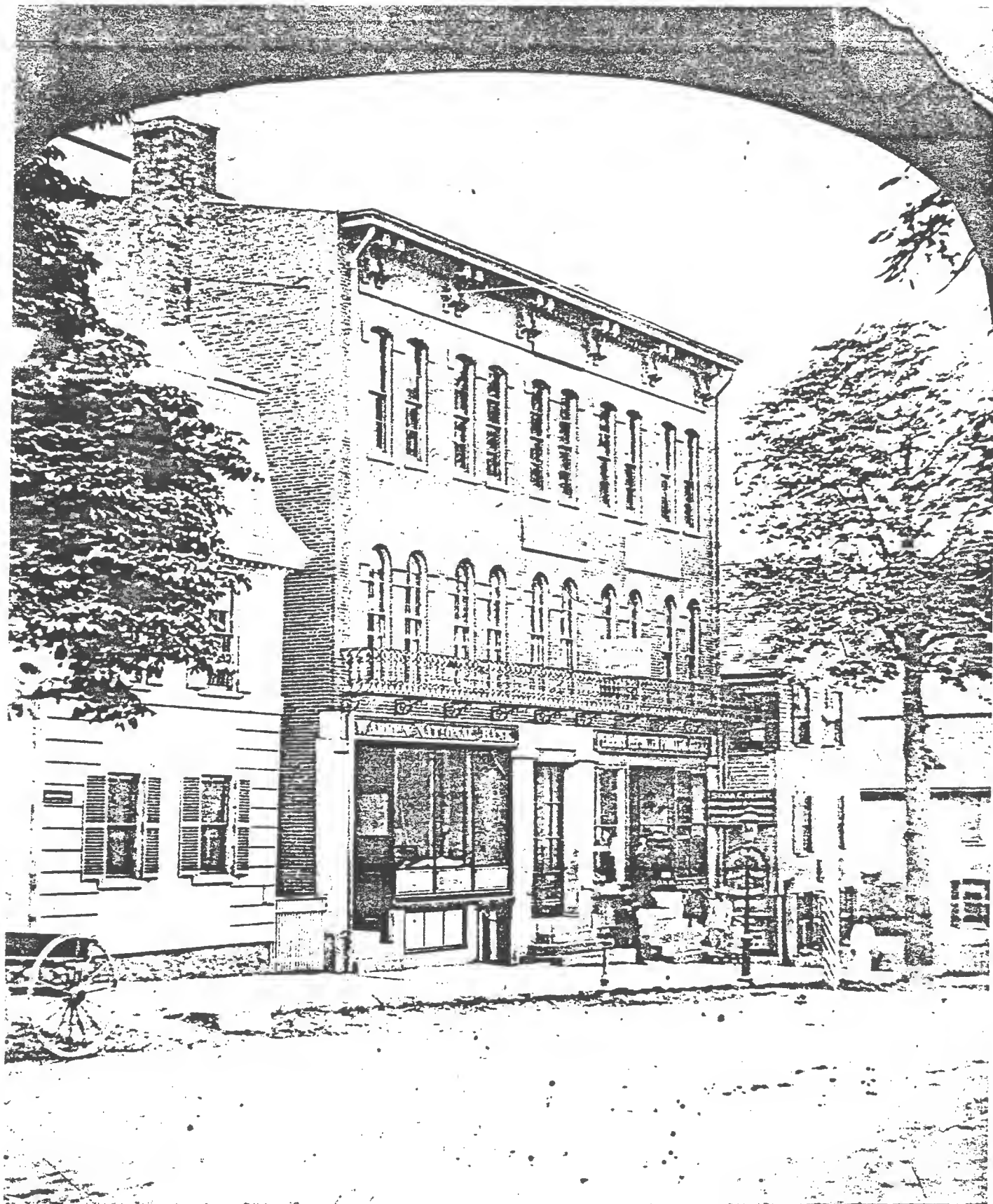
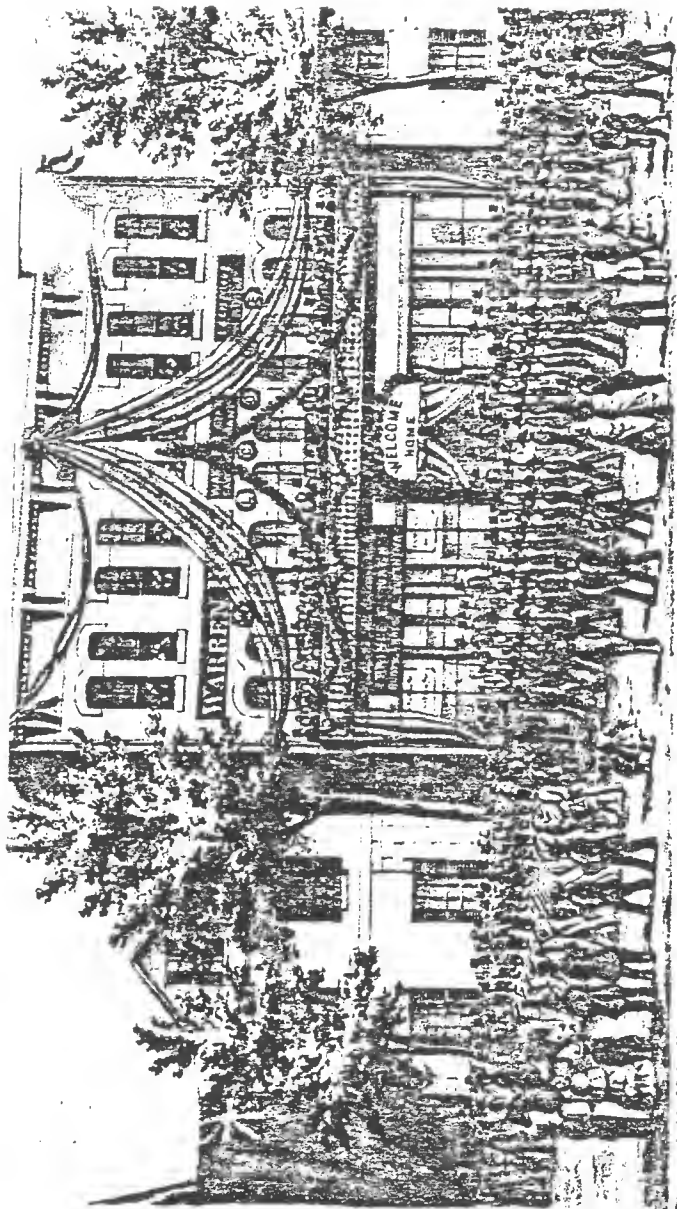


FIGURE 2

Warren Bank Building built in 1854. Now Merchants Warren National Bank.



VIEW OF WARREN BANK BUILDING WITH THE ESCORT.

SOUTH DANYERS.

FIGURE 3



FIGURE 4

The Warren National Bank before its 1917 remodeling.
Photograph taken in 1915. Courtesy of the Peabody
Historical Society.

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

1 - 15 Main Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER Liacos, Paul J. and Katherine; Liacos, Izza

11 Main Street, Peabody, MA

- 2) HISTORIC NAME O'Shea Building No. 1

- 3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial

- #### 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1903-1904

SOURCE see National Register nomination

- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER Burk and Sanborn of Lynn, MA

- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF commercial

- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF commercial

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Renaissance Revival

- ## 2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION not visisble

FACADE glazed buff brick (front elevation) red brick (rear)

TRIM rusticated limestone, pressed metal

VIEW FROM Northeast

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 1 - 15 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

See National Register Nomination

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES 1903-1904

BUILDER/ARCHITECT M. F. Burk

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The O'Shea Building possess integrity of location, design, materials and workmanship and is one of the finest and least altered commercial blocks in Peabody. Constructed by the City's leading entrepreneur to house a variety of retail uses, this block foreshadowed the development of downtown Peabody as a major commercial area in the early twentieth century. This growth reflects the industrial boom which Peabody was then experiencing, particularly in the field of leather manufacturing.

In 1903, when Main Street was still mainly residential in character, Thomas H. O'Shea purchased a lot of land east of the City Hall (NR) from Dr. G.S. Gordon. Planning to develop the area for commercial use, he had two dwellings and a shop moved and another dwelling and shop demolished. Construction began in 1904. Burk and Sanborn of Lynn were the architects while the contractors - James C. Linehan, excavating and stonework; Edward H. Potter, masonry; Abraham Lumus, carpentry; Hamblett & Hacks Co., hardware and metalwork; M.E. Lynch, plumbing and heating; were all local. The original tenants were: George S. Curtis, druggist; D. F. Bresnahan, dry goods dealer; George H. Jacobs, clothier; E.E. Gray and Co., grocers; Miss N.L. Stockwell, milliner. The second floor housed several fraternal organizations like the Emerald Court, M.C.O.F.; Court George Peabody, Foresters of America; Union Post #50, G.A.R; Leo Council, Knights of Columbus; and an attorney, James J. Sheehan. A mixed usage continues today.

O'Shea was born in Peabody in 1867. He quickly became established in the dominant leather industry, first in partnership with James F. Ingraham Sr., manufacturing morocco then with A.P. Phillips, finishing India goat skins, then finally on his own. O'Shea also dealt in real estate and at one time was the City's largest land owner and tax payer. He served as a director of the Warren National Bank in 1906 and as its Vice President from 1911 until his death in 1920. He was also a trustee of the J.B. Thomas Hospital.

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT ☐ DETERIORATED
☒ GOOD ☐ RUINS
☐ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The O'Shea Building at 1-15 Main Street is a two story Renaissance Revival commercial block located in downtown Peabody, close to Peabody Square. It is rectangular in plan with a 160 foot frontage on Main Street (north) and a 60 foot frontage on Nichols Lane (east), a minor side street. These two elevations are faced with rusticated limestone at the first story and glazed buff brick with granite and pressed metal trim at the second story. The rear elevation (south) is faced with red brick; the west elevation is a party wall.

The Main Street facade is symmetrically composed about a slightly projecting central pavillion. At the ground floor level there is an arched center entry flanked by three store fronts on either side. While these have been altered and obscured by modern signs, they retain their original spacing and dividing piers. A pressed metal entablature, bearing the words O'SHEA BUILDING above the entrance separates the first and second stories.

The second story contains a series of round arched window openings divided into pairs by corinthian pilasters. They all have heavy archivolts with egg and dart moldings, carved keystones, and an ornate shell motif in their transoms. Originally 1/1 double hung sash has been replaced by single panes only in the four eastern bays. The building is crowned by a full corinthian pressed metal entablature. These decorative elements are continued for one bay on the east elevation.

PRESENT CONDITION

In general the O'Shea Building appears to be in good condition. The loss of its original balustrade and replacement of some second floor windows can be viewed as actual improvements. Its richly detailed architectural ornament and variously colored building materials remain intact and impressive.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The First O'Shea Building is of high quality and is justly listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Few New England towns have a turn-of-the-century commercial building of such excellence.

Its ground floor, however, is presently cluttered with miscellaneous signs and inappropriate store fronts. New and more restrained signage and improvement of some of the storefronts would go far toward setting new standards for Main Street.



PEABODY SQUARE IN 1865 looking towards Main Street. Shown on left is original Allen Block before addition. Warren National Bank on right.



FIGURE 1

FRAME GREEK REVIVAL DWELLINGS
ON THE SITE OF THE FIRST O'SHEA BUILDING

Photograph from
John A. Wells'
Peabody Story

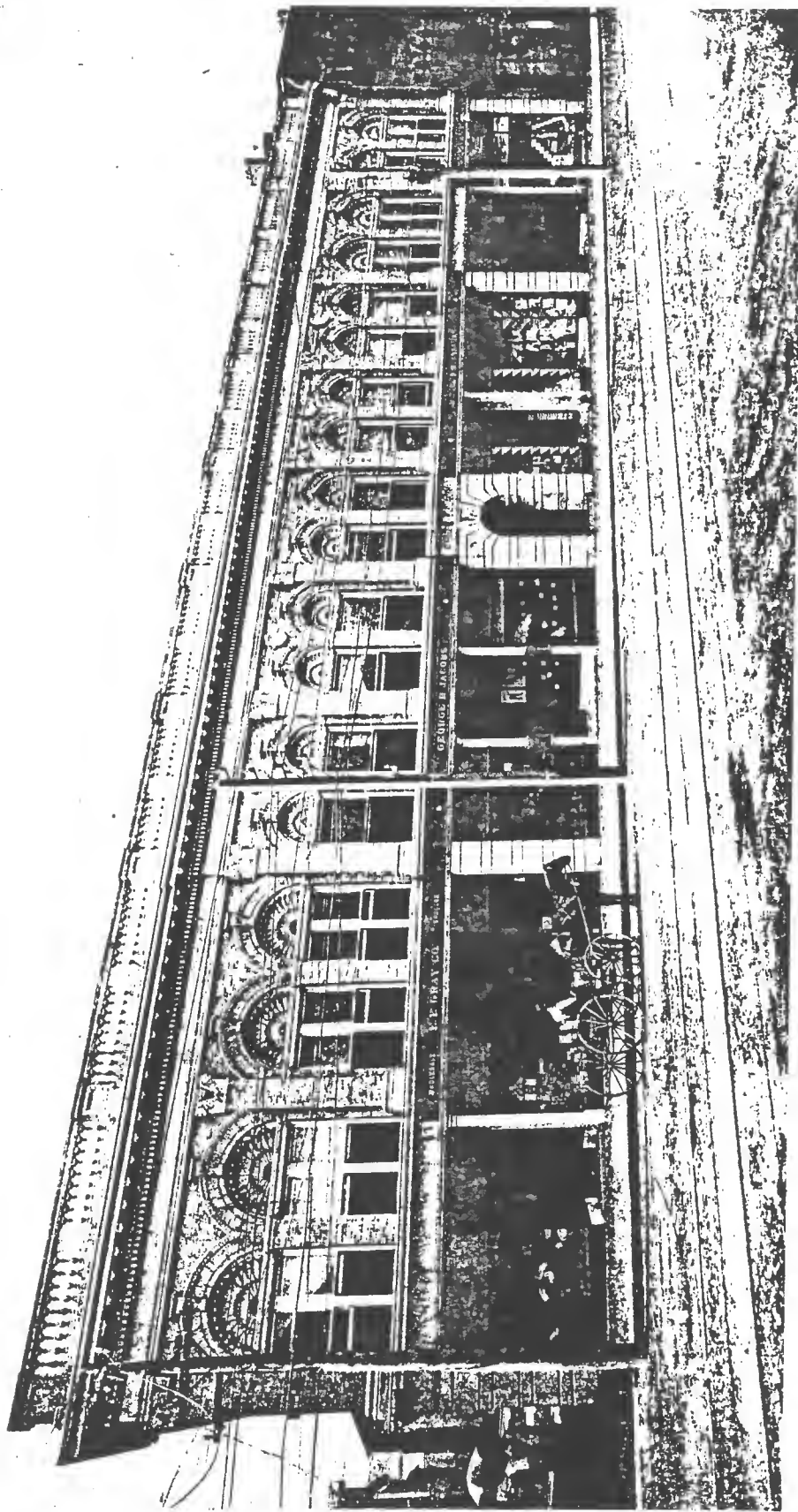


FIGURE 2

THE FIRST O'SHEA BUILDING
ca. 1905

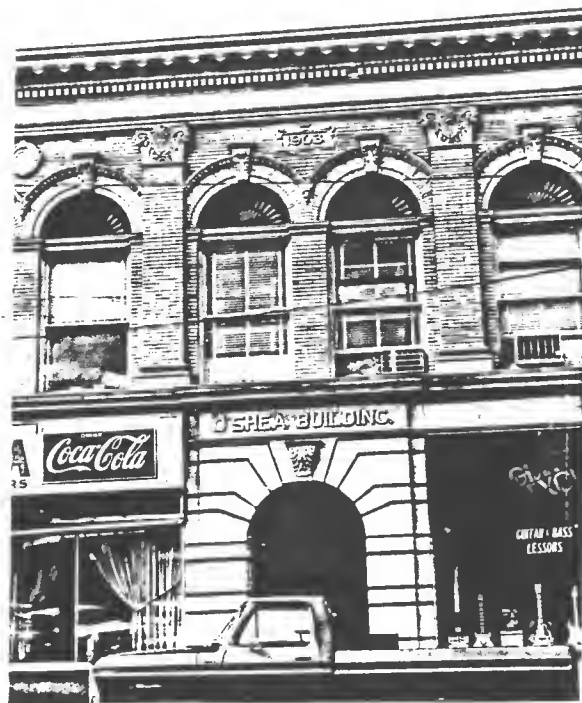


FIGURE 3

O'SHEA BUILDING NO. 1
detail of central entrance
photograph taken June 1980

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION Summer Street

1) CURRENT OWNER First Baptist Church

2) HISTORIC NAME First Baptist Church

3) PROPERTY TYPE church

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1857

SOURCE John A. Wells, The Peabody Story.

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF church UF church

4) PRESENT USE: GF church UF church

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Italianate

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION granite

FACADE clapboards

TRIM wood (door and window enframements)

VIEW FROM North

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS Summer Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC fair
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES needs paint
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF intact original fabric
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING focal point in area

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Peabody's First Baptist Church was organized on February 16, 1843.¹ Its sixteen member congregation was initially housed in a 65 by 32 foot chapel. The Reverend Phineas Stowe was the first pastor. He served from 1843 to 1845.

The present church on Summer Street was dedicated on November 19, 1857. The Reverend T.D. Anderson preached the first sermon. From 1868 to 1879 this church's pastor was the Reverend C.V. Hanson. He was "strongly interested in the affairs of the town, widely respected by all denominations, and was twice sent as a representative to the legislature in 1871 and 1872." The First Baptist Church greatly prospered under his leadership.

In 1888 the historian D. Hamilton Hurd noted that "In the fall of 1887 repair and improvements were begun in the building [First Baptist Church] which will greatly improve the beauty and convenience of the house." The "improvements" Hurd referred to are probably the handsome golden oak stairway which leads from the main entrance to the sanctuary and the church's colorful stained glass windows.

In recent years this church's congregation has been enjoying a resurgence in membership.

Footnotes

1. All dates, statistics, names and quotations have been derived from John A. Wells, The Peabody Story, p. 487-488, or D. Hamilton Hurd's History of Essex County, Volume II, p. 1037.

PRESENT CONDITION

The First Baptist Church is constructed of wood. It is situated on a rubble granite foundation. Projecting from the northern wall of its rectangular meeting hall is a pedimented pavilion, surmounted by a square tower with round oculus window, an octagonal belfry and a tall spire ending in an elaborate weathervane. The steeple appears to lean toward the southeast.

The church's interior is noteworthy for the richness of its stained glass, oak woodwork, and coved plaster ceiling.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The First Baptist Church is a primary landmark, if not the primary landmark in Peabody. Its majestic steeple presides over a neighborhood of handsome mid-nineteenth century residences. Certain peculiarities of siting have resulted in the church's being the focal point of one of Peabody's most delightful vistas. The church is situated at the head of a narrow passageway which runs from Main Street to Summer Street. This passageway, known as Nichols Lane, is lined with late nineteenth and early twentieth century structures which frame the narrow approach to the Church.

The First Baptist Church is a landmark of singular importance to Peabody. While several Peabody churches have been altered or have disappeared, this church retains its original fabric. The present minister has said that the church which is presently gray with yellow trim will soon be re-painted white. The steeple, which leans to the southeast, may require strengthening.

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 17 Main Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER Freedman, Alan; 12 Yorkshire Road,
Marblehead, Massachusetts 01945
- 2) HISTORIC NAME Essex Club Block (before altered to a single story)
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1882, upper floors removed ca. early 1920's
SOURCE Peabody Press, August 16, 1882, and Naumkeag
Salem Directories
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER S.F. Blaney
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF club rooms
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF N/A

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE 1960's commercial
- 2) MATERIALS:
FOUNDATION Not visible
FACADE metal panels and brick
TRIM metal

VIEW FROM North PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 17 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF major and irreversible changes
UF N/A
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING detracts from historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The Food Shop Bakery building was originally a three story brick building known as the Essex Club Block.¹ (see Figure 1) Built in 1882, its ground floor housed George H. Jacobs clothing store while the Essex Club was located on the second floor.² The third floor contained a hall and two ante rooms which were "available for lodge or dancing parties."³ The Essex Club Block was built by S.F. Blaney.⁴ He was a partner of Winchester and Blaney, wool dealers. Blaney was eulogized as "a born leader of men and outspoken in his views."⁵

After the Essex Club disbanded in 1892⁶ the Essex Club Block became known as Blaney's Building.⁷ From 1904 until 1910 its ground floor was occupied by Daley's Market.⁸ It also contained P.D. Trakedis and Co. Tailors, and M. Halpern's Clothing Store.⁹ In 1910 Samuel H. Ward, provision dealer, "hired the larger store in Blaney's Building on Main Street."¹⁰ He was a tenant of this building until ca. 1920. The Cross Press occupied rooms above the ground floor.¹¹

It is difficult to determine when the Blaney Block lost its upper floors. A fire may have consumed the second and third stories during the early 1920's. By 1925 only William O'Shea's Tobacco Shop is listed at this address.¹²

From 1930 until 1960 tenants of the drastically altered Blaney Block included the A & P grocery, A & P Tea Company, and Stanley's Cafeteria Inc. Restaurant.¹³ Since the late 1950's the Food Shop Bakery has been housed in this structure.

Footnotes

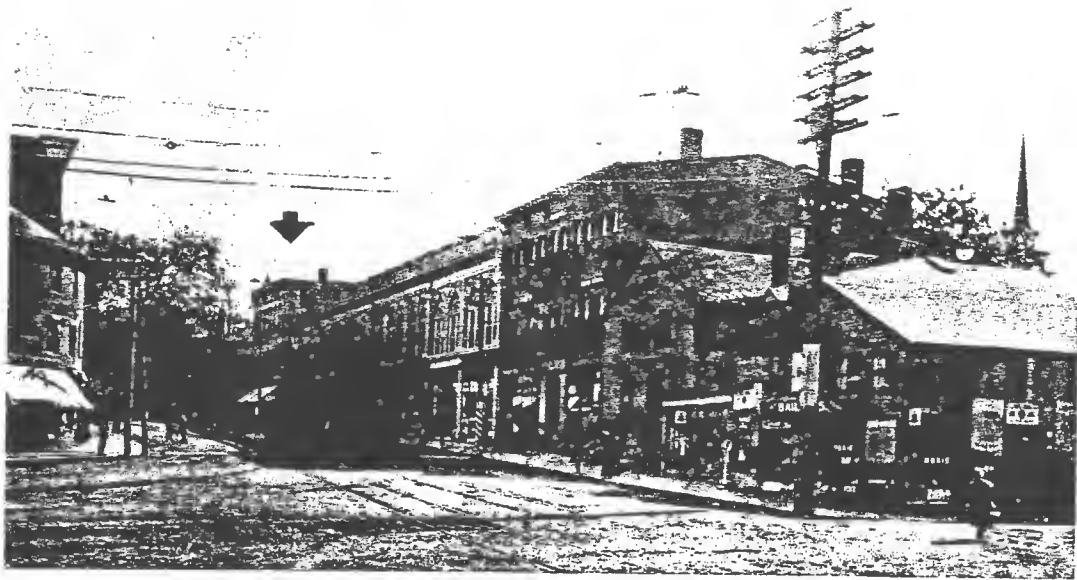
1. Peabody Press; August 16, 1882, p. 1.
2. Peabody Press; February 29, 1892, p. 2.
3. Peabody Press; August 16, 1882, p. 1.
4. Peabody Press; August 16, 1882, p. 1.
5. Peabody Press; March 30, 1895, p. 2.
6. Peabody Press; February 29, 1892, p. 2.
7. Salem Evening News; January 24, 1910, p. 5.
8. Salem Evening News; January 24, 1910, pl 5.
9. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1910.
10. Salem Evening News; January 24, 1910, p. 5.
11. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1918.
12. Peabody Directory, 1925-26.
13. Polk's Salem Directory, 1930, 1940, 1950, 1960.

PRESENT CONDITION

This one story brick structure features wide glass display windows which are surrounded by metal panels and aluminum strips. The corrugated metal panel which spans the length of the Main Street facade proclaims in old English lettering "Food Shop Bakery, Party Center". (see photograph)

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Food Shop Bakery is a remnant of the old Essex Club Block. Its recently installed metal front and lettering are neat and attractive, though the lettering seems over size. Any new lettering in the future would be no less legible if it were smaller and fitted in better with the street as a whole.



ESSEX CLUB BLOCK
Now site of
Food Shop Bakery

FIGURE 1

Courtesy of the Peabody
Historical Society

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 21 - 31 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Mello, Lourival; Mello, Americo; Luis, Joseph;
Trustees, Mello Family Realty Trust, 25 Main Street

2) HISTORIC NAME First National Grocery Store

3) PROPERTY TYPE supermarket

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1940

SOURCE 1940 Naumkeag Salem Directory

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF supermarket UF N/A

4) PRESENT USE: GF bakery UF N/A

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Art Deco

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION concrete

FACADE brick

TRIM cast stone

VIEW FROM Northeast

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 21 - 31 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF intact with evolutionary changes
UF N/A
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, parking lot, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING severely disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING detracts from historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Built in 1940¹ to house a branch of First National Grocery Stores, Inc., Mellos Bakery is a one story brick and concrete structure. Located on the south side of Main Street between Nichols Lane and Park Street, the bakery's lot was the site of Sylvester Proctor's Apothecary and Grocery Store.² Proctor's shop, founded in the early 1800's, had historical associations with the City of Peabody's namesake, George Peabody.³ Peabody was one of America's first great philanthropists. His business interests were international in scope. (see report on Peabody Institute) Peabody "worked as a youth from 1806 to 1810 in Sylvester Proctor's Store".⁴ Proctor's store was moved ca. 1865 to 31 Elm Street.⁵

By 1868⁶ the house and apothecary shop of D. P. Grosvernor Jr. occupied this site. (see fig. 2) Dr. Grosvernor was last listed at this address in 1908.⁷ Between 1910 and 1940⁸ the former Grosvernor house's tenants included a men's clothing store, an ice cream parlor, tailor's carpenter and painters.

In 1940 the current Mello's Bakery building was built to house a First National Grocery Store.⁹ This supermarket was located in this structure until the early 1970's.

Footnotes

1. Polk's Salem Directory, 1940.
2. Clippings Book in Essex County Institute - "Main Street Fifty Years Ago" from the Comet, 1869.
3. Ibid.
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid.
6. 1868 Essex County Atlas.
7. 1908 Naumkeag Salem Directory.
8. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1910, 1918.
Peabody Directory, 1925-26.
Polk's Salem Directory, 1930, 1939.
9. Polk's Salem Directory, 1940, 1950, 1960, 1970.

PRESENT CONDITION

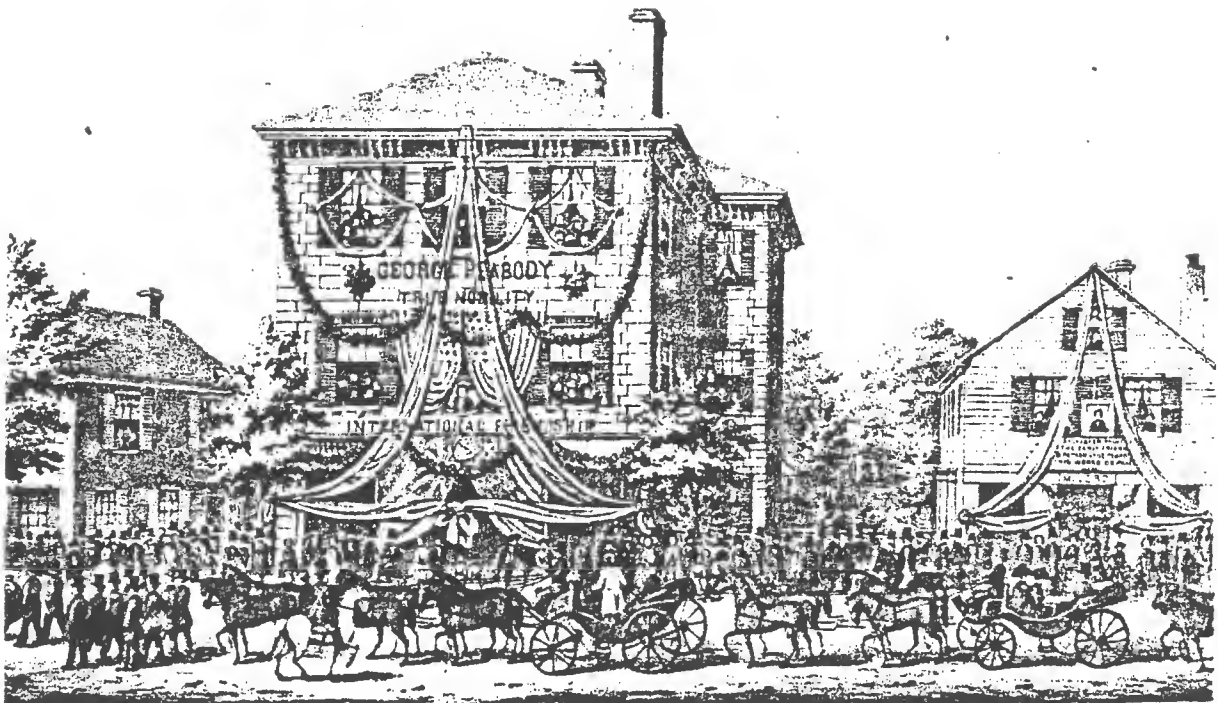
This one story brick structure's Main Street facade is four bays long. Originally its cast stone piers and parapet enframed glass display windows. These glassed-in areas have been replaced by brick infill. In the center of the brick infill are small square and rectangular windows. The cast stone piers and portions of the parapet display mildly Art Deco treatments. The piers have been molded to create a rippling effect.

Adjacent to this building's eastern wall is a paved parking area. The paving covers this entire lot which is at the corner of Main and Park Streets.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This simple building could be improved by modification of the somewhat forbidding brick walls which presently block its former display windows. Perhaps larger glass areas to enable passersby to observe the bakery operations would be desirable.

Landscaping and perhaps sitting areas along the Main Street side of Mello's parking lot would improve its appearance and help the continuity of the street.



RESIDENCE OF T.A. SWEETSER, AND STORE OF THE LATE CAPT. PROCTOR ADJOINING.
SOUTH DANVERS.

FIGURE 1

T.A. SWEETSER HOUSE
and apothecary shop,
site of Mello's parking lot
corner of Main and Park Streets

SYLVESTER PROCTOR'S
store, site of Mello's bakery

Courtesy of the Peabody Institute; ca. 1855



Drugstore and House of
Dr. D.P. Grosvenor; present
location of Mello's Bakery.

Drugstore and House of T.A.
Sweetser; present location of
Mello's Parking Lot.

FIGURE 2



FIGURE 3

Mello's parking lot, corner of Main Street,
and Park Street, site of T.A. Sweetser's Drugstore
and residence. Photograph taken June, 1980



J. Clement House
built ca. 1865

FIGURE 4



FIGURE 5

The J. Clement House is located to the south of Mello's Bakery Parking Lot. This fine Second Empire or Mansard style residence occupies a key position at the corner of Park Square and Park Street.

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 39-41 Main Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER Tecce, Daniel A. and Dorothy L.
- 2) HISTORIC NAME Santoro's Sandwich Shops
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial/residential
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1928
- SOURCE Polk's City of Salem Directory, 1929, 1930.
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF residential
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Not applicable
- 2) MATERIALS:
- FOUNDATION cement
- FACADE multi-colored stretcher bond brick
- TRIM cement
- VIEW FROM North PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 39-41 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF Major but reversible changes
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential, parking lot
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact with minor intrusions and/or losses
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING compatible with historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The lot at the corner of Main and Park Streets was occupied by the residence and offices of Dr. Joseph Osgood during the mid-nineteenth century.¹ (see figure 1) Dr. Osgood was Peabody's first Post Master from 1831-1844.² On June 7, 1855 he became a member of the first school committee to be organized by the newly created town of South Danvers (later Peabody.)³

The Standard Building which is presently situated at this corner lot was built in 1930.⁴ It originally contained the Standard Hardware Company which had been located at 61-63 Main Street (corner of Little's Lane) since 1915.⁵

By 1953 the Standard Hardware store had vacated these premises.⁶ In the 1950's the Tee Vee Supply Company was a ground floor tenant.⁷ Santoro's Sandwich Shop has been located at 39-41 Main Street since the late 1950's.⁸

Footnotes

1. 1872 Essex County Atlas.
2. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 277.
3. Ibid., p. 298.
4. Polk's City of Salem Directory, 1929, 1930.
5. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1914, 1915.
6. Polk's City of Salem Directory, 1952, 1953.
7. Ibid., 1955.
8. Ibid., 1958.

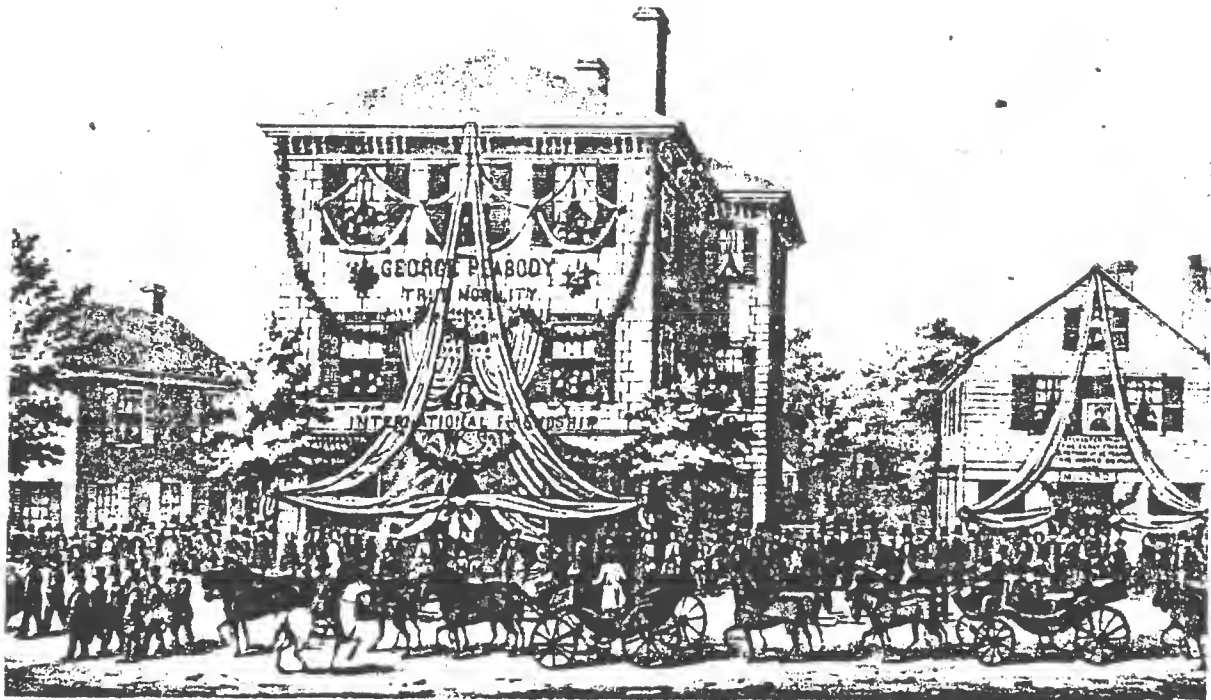
PRESENT CONDITION

All but the ground floor storefront retains most of its fabric. The storefront is covered with red enameled panels. Above these panels is wooden planking which spans the length of the Main Street facade and part of the Park Street facade. Applied to this planking are half a dozen metal signs of various shapes and lettering types. A stained concrete cornice is situated above the planking.

The upper floors are, with one exception, unaltered. A large multi-colored neon sign projects from the second floor above the Main Street entrance. This building is surmounted by a parapet. In the center of the Main Street side of the parapet is a cement plaque with incised lettering which reads "The Standard".

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Photographs showing the Standard Hardware Building's pre-submarine shop appearance have yet to be discovered. A closer relationship needs to be established between the storefront and the upper floors of the building. While the red enameled metal panels are up to date they are not in sympathy with the multi-colored brick and cement trim of this structure. The original transoms may be still extant beneath the wooden planking. Signs which display a uniformity of size and lettering would enhance this building's appearance.



RESIDENCE OF T.A. SWEETSER, AND STORE OF THE LATE CAPT. PROCTOR ADJOINING.
SOUTH DANVERS.

See P. 11



Dr. Joseph Osgood House
site of the Standard
Hardware Building

Courtesy of the Peabody
Institute

FIGURE 1

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 43 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Gordon, David J., trustee; David J. Gordon Trust

24 Main Street

2) HISTORIC NAME Strand Theatre

3) PROPERTY TYPE theater

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1912

SOURCE John A. Wells, The Peabody Story; p. 346.

Architect: E.A. Earp

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER Builder: Structural Cement Company of Lynn

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF theater UF Theater

4) PRESENT USE: GF Commercial UF unknown

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Modernized ca 1960 - originally Colonial Revival

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION cement

FACADE stucco covered cement

TRIM corrugated metal panels (GF)

VIEW FROM North

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 43 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF major and irreversible changes
UF major but reversible changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact with minor additions and/or losses
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING detracts from historic character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The Strand Theatre was completed in 1912.¹ It is located on what was formerly the Sutton lawn. (see report on 45-53 Main Street.) Designed by E.A. Earp, it was built by the Structural Cement Company of Lynn.²

Work began on the theater in 1910³ but was soon abandoned due to the financial difficulties of an unnamed lessee. It was noted in a newspaper article that "All through the spring and summer of 1911 the unroofed walls stood on the Sutton lawn like an old ruin."⁴ Finally a new lease was made between Madden and McManus, the property's owner, and Aechtler and McKinney.⁵ They managed Winthrop's Dream Theatre.⁶ The Strand was opened for its first performance on April 9, 1912.⁷ The first motion picture to be shown was "Across Panama in 1912."⁸

The Strand Theatre is an early example of an American public building constructed almost entirely of concrete. At the time of its opening it was noted that "Very little wood has been used in the construction of the theatre, and the building is as fireproof, it would seem, as it would be possible to build it."⁹

The lighting system and particularly the ventilating plant were praised for their modernity. The ventilating plant consisted of "a large pipe beneath the balcony, extending across the theatre, to openings in the walls, where there are 36 inch fans to draw the air out of the theatre, thereby providing fresh and pure air continually."¹⁰ This system was augmented by "12 oscillating electric fans."¹¹

Newspaper accounts of the theater's debut focus almost exclusively on the interior's appearance. It was noted that the "handsome facade is lighted by two bracketed arc lamps, and contains two bulletin boards behind glass....The outside measurements of the theatre are 50 by 140 feet."¹²

The main floor of the house was "100 by 46 feet, with a balcony, supported by pillars, extended about one-half the length."¹³ The seating capacity of the theater was 1250.¹⁴ The stage measured 27 feet, 10 inches and was 23 feet, 3 inches deep.¹⁵ It was 60 feet high in the rear.¹⁶ The stage had "an olio drop curtain, depicting a Venetian scene, and also an asbestos curtain, matching in shade the prevailing

tone of the house, and the words "Peabody Theatre" in gold lettering in the center."¹⁷ Painted ornamental metal covered the walls and ceiling. The interior finish was described as "colonial".¹⁸

The business office of the theater was located "directly above the front entrance, and under the operating room. This room was "8 by 12 feet in size, seven feet high, with a steel floor and asbestos walls and celing....the room contains two picture machines and one dissolving machine."¹⁹ In the rear of the theater were located "dressing rooms, toilet rooms, property rooms, and a heating plant."²⁰

The Strand Theatre ceased operations in 1956.²¹ At that time it was part of the Loew's Theatre chain and was called "Loew's Strand."²² It was listed as vacant in 1957.²³ In recent years it has housed Jay's Cleansers. Presently it contains United Studios of Self Defense. It is owned by David J. Gordon Trust.

The construction of the Strand Theatre represents an event of watershed importance in downtown Peabody's history. This building was the first extension of Peabody Square's commercial activities east of Park Street. It was the first commercial structure to encroach upon the quiet residential character of Main Street's southern side.

Architecturally its innovative concrete construction was not imitated in Peabody but the Dobrotinar Buildings (1915) to the east display similar Colonial Revival facade embellishments (i.e. swags, foliated ornament carved in high relief).

Footnotes

1. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 346.
2. Peabody Historical Society "clippings scrapbook, 1912";
No page number or newspaper title.
3. Ibid.
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.
7. Ibid.
8. Ibid.
9. Ibid.
10. Ibid.
11. Ibid.
12. Ibid.
13. Ibid.
14. Ibid.
15. Ibid.
16. Ibid.
17. Ibid.
18. Ibid.
19. Ibid.
20. Ibid.
21. Polk's City of Salem Directory, 1955, 1956, 1957.
22. Ibid., 1955, 1956, 1957.
23. Ibid., 1957.

PRESENT CONDITION

The Strand's Main Street facade was extensively modernized ca. 1960. The ground floor features wide glass display windows enframed by corrugated metal panels. A thin metal marquee is situated above the storefronts. Between the marquee and flat roof is a wide recessed expanse of stucco covered wall. A rectangular metal sign which reads "Jay's Cleaners" is located in the lower central portion of the stucco covered area.

The Theatre's elaborately decorated Colonial Revival facade may be still extant behind the stucco covered area. (see figure 1) The stucco may have been applied to wooden panels mounted on strapping. Still visible at the corner of the Main Street facade are portions of a classicized cornice and decorative paneling. The side and rear walls of this cement structure appear to be in good condition.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The former Strand Theatre is significant as an early example of an American structure built almost entirely of concrete. It would be in the interests of Peabody's downtown rehabilitation program to determine if the theater's elaborate main facade is still extant beneath the stucco covered area.

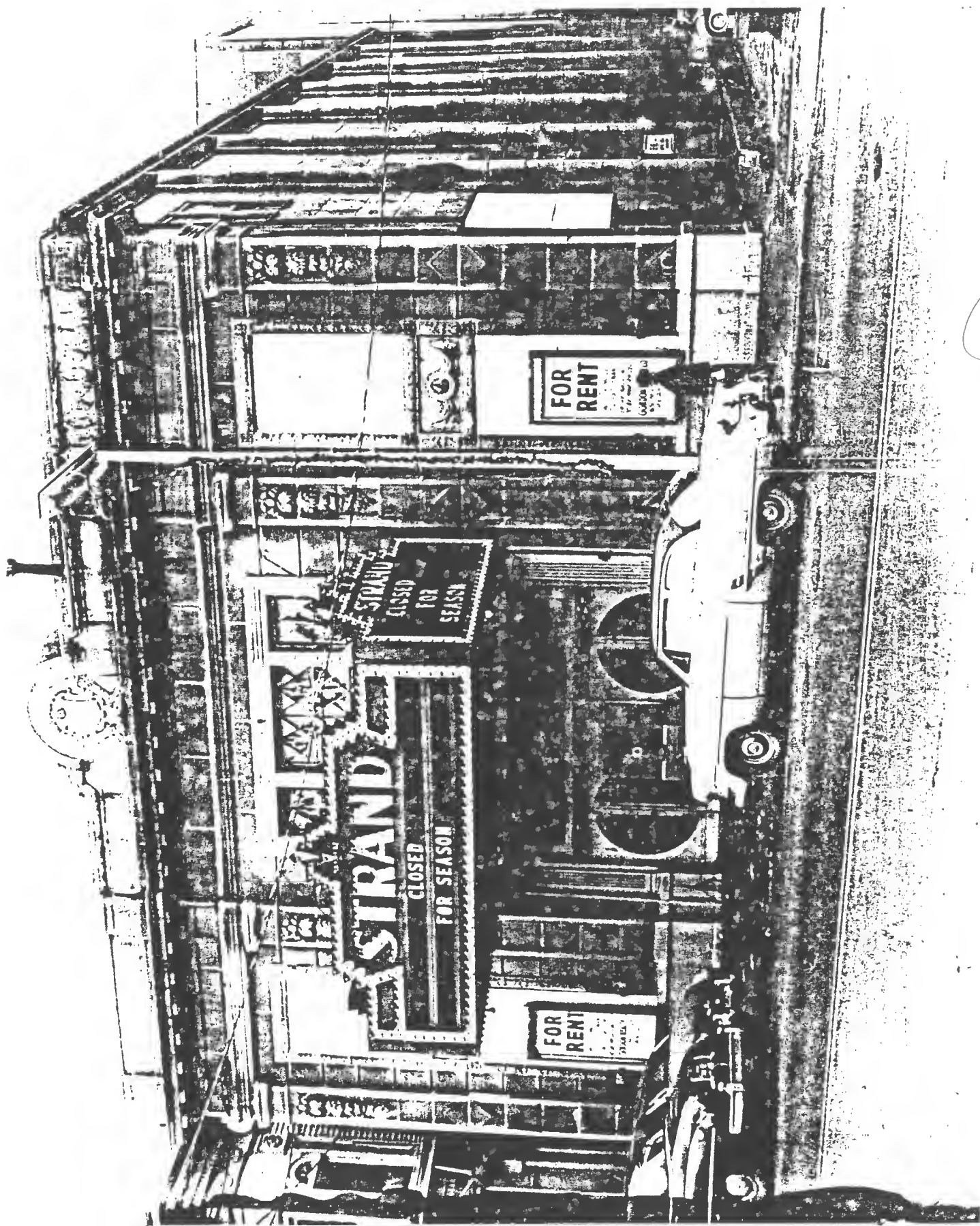
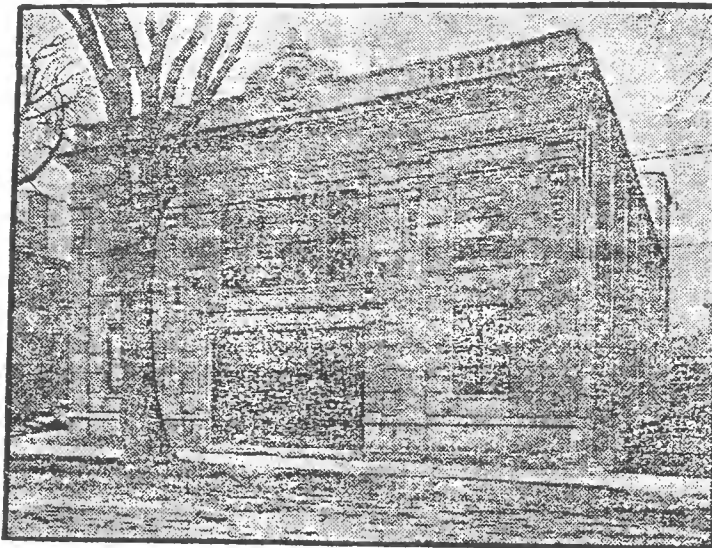


FIGURE 1

circa 1940

OPENED LAST EVENING

Selectmen and Other Town Officials Were Present at the First Performance of Vaudeville and Motion Pictures; Everybody Delighted With the Playhouse.



(Photo by Robb.)

PEABODY THEATRE, OPENED LAST NIGHT.

Peabody, April 10.—The first performance in the new Peabody theatre on Main street, was given last evening, and was not preceded with any dedication or other formalities. Several handsome bouquets, sent to the management with the best wishes of the senders, were in evidence. The house was filled with people, and hundreds were turned away, unable to secure admission. In the crush at the doors at the opening, a plate glass panel in one of the doors was smashed into pieces. The theatre had been pretty well "papered" for the opening night, and many friends of the management, the selectmen, other town officials, and guests occupied complimentary seats.

There was general satisfaction expressed by all present, and most of them found the house to surpass expectations, in size, finish and appointments. The ventilating system was well tested out and no fault was found with it. The acoustic properties of the theatre were also found to be excellent. The pitch of the floor and balcony is sufficient to give the spectator a clear view of the stage, and the stage itself was thought to be a little gem. The house seats 1100 people, 300 of them in the balcony. It is under the management of Aechtler & McKinney. There will be performances every evening at 7.30, and Wednesday and Saturday afternoons at 2.30, and two performances each Sunday evening. The program will be changed Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and a special program will be run Sunday nights.

The first picture shown last evening was "Across Panama in 1912," and showed in great detail the work on the canal. Next followed a rather harrowing picture entitled, "She never knew; a story of self sacrifice." It might better have been omitted the opening night when people were looking for something cheerful. Then followed a splendid film, showing scenes in the zoological garden in Rome. Next came a humorous picture, "Out of tune," followed by a western biograph, "A road agent's love," and the closing picture, "Priscilla's capture." For an opening night, the views were very well shown, but familiarity with the house will enable the operator to get a little better focus.

The remainder of the two hours' entertainment included illustrated and other songs by the Proctors, harmony singers; Choates and Jeffrey, formerly of the Watermelon trust, in a colored act; and the Comedy Four, singers and comedians, all of whom combined to make a highly successful program for the opening night of the new playhouse. An opportunity was given to show the stage.

FIGURE 2

Courtesy of the Peabody Historical Society

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 45-53 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Sellios, George A., 49 Main Street, Peabody

2) HISTORIC NAME Dobrotinar Building No. 1

3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1915

SOURCE 1914, 1915 Naumkeag Salem Directory

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER Solly Dobrotinar

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF offices

4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF commercial

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Neo Adamesque

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION not visible

FACADE frame

TRIM corrugated metal

VIEW FROM Northeast

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 45-53 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC Needs major repairs
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES water damage/lack of maintenance
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential, institutional
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact historical setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

In 1915 Solly Dobrotinar, of Dobrotinar Real Estate, Peabody, built two commercial structures on land that had been part of the old Ebenezer Sutton estate.¹ (see Report on 55-59 Main Street) Dobrotinar Building No. 1 (45-53 Main Street) is a detached, two story frame structure. Dobrotinar Building No. 2, adjacent to the east, is a narrow, rectangular two story brick structure which was added to the main facade of the ca. 1850 Sutton House.

The first tenants of Dobrotinar Building No. 1 included the Deerhead Ice Cream and Candy Company, A. Wilson photographer, H.M. Fox, Dentist and C.R. Luter, Architect.² For many years (1920's - 1950's) Louis Cohen's Men's Shop occupied the ground floor along with John H. Lyon's Drugstore (1920's - 1947).³ From the 1950's until the early 1970's Henry's Honey Bee Restaurant was located in the western portion of the ground floor.⁴ The Apollo Insurance Agency is the current ground floor tenant.

FOOTNOTES

1. Naumkeag Salem Directories, 1914-1918.
2. ibid.
3. ibid., 1925-26, 1930, 1940, 1946, 1947, 1950.
4. ibid., 1960, 1965, 1970, 1972.

PRESENT CONDITION

This building's main facade is covered with elaborate Neo Adamesque carved decoration. Its original ground floor surface treatments are hidden from view by green and gray corrugated metal panels. A metal marquee is suspended above the western entrance.

Weathering and lack of maintenance have altered or obliterated much of the second floor's ornamentation which is carved in high relief. Rosettes once appeared above the recessed panels which flank the windows. The panels contained floral embellishments. It is only on the portion of the storefront walls adjacent to the side passageways that these decorations are mostly intact. The fan lights of the five round arched second floor windows have been covered with segmental plywood panels. Presumably the delicate muntins are still intact beneath this covering. The swags on the frieze above the windows also show signs of water damage and are in need of immediate attention. Still intact above the freize are dentils and a modillion cornice.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Main Street facade of the first Dobrotinar Building once displayed the most elaborate carved Colonial Revival decoration in Peabody. Presently much of this surface enrichment is either missing or hidden from view. Enough remains of its form, fabric and details, however, to warrant a design program sympathetic with its historic character. If sensitively rehabilitated it has the potential for being a "model" for other commercial buildings in the city's downtown. (see Figure 1.)

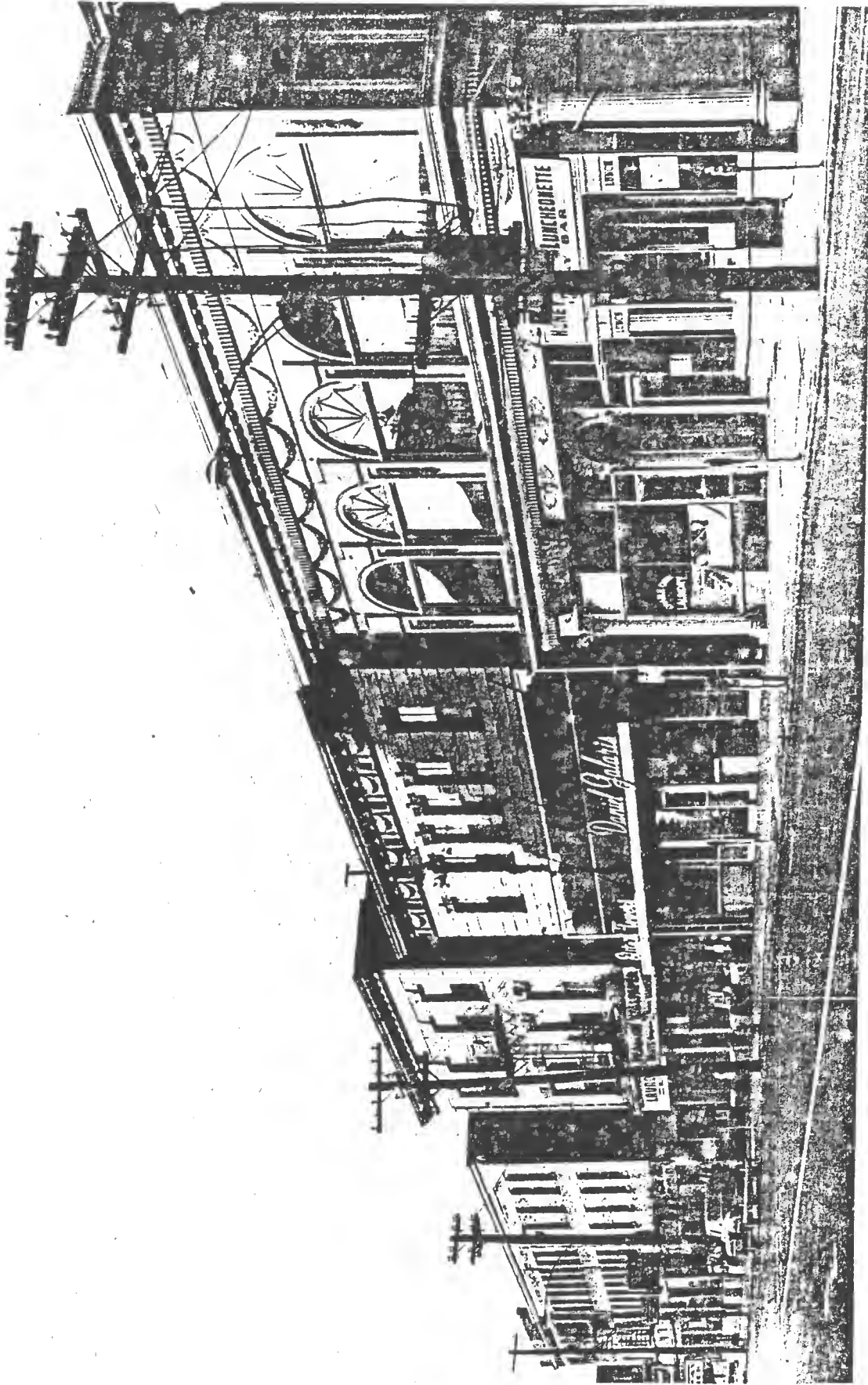


FIGURE 1

DOBROTINAR BUILDING NO. 1

Courtesy of Gordon Realty, Peabody



x L. Perry

↑
Dobrotinar Bldg. No. 1

↑
Sutton Block

FIGURE 2

Note the balustrade which
surmounts Dobrotinar Building No. 1

Postcard courtesy of John A. Wells

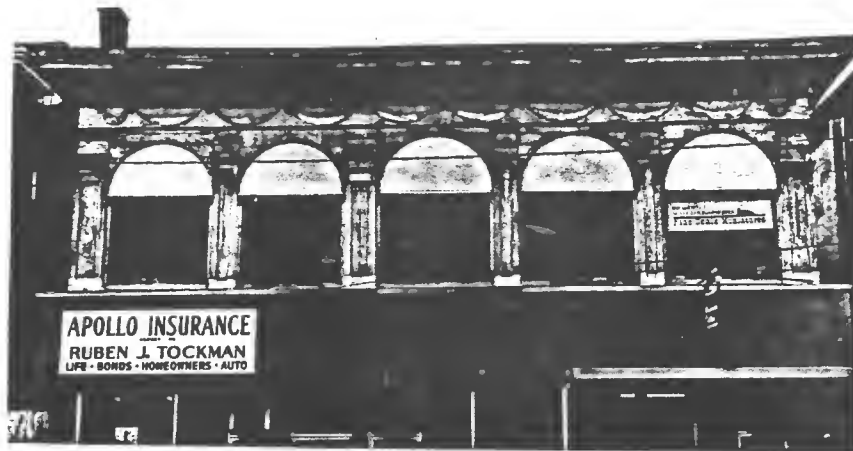


FIGURE 3

DOBROTINAR BUILDING NO. 1'S
MAIN STREET FACADE

Note Neo Adamesque swag decoration. Fan light windows may be still extant behind the arches' panels.
Photograph taken August 1980

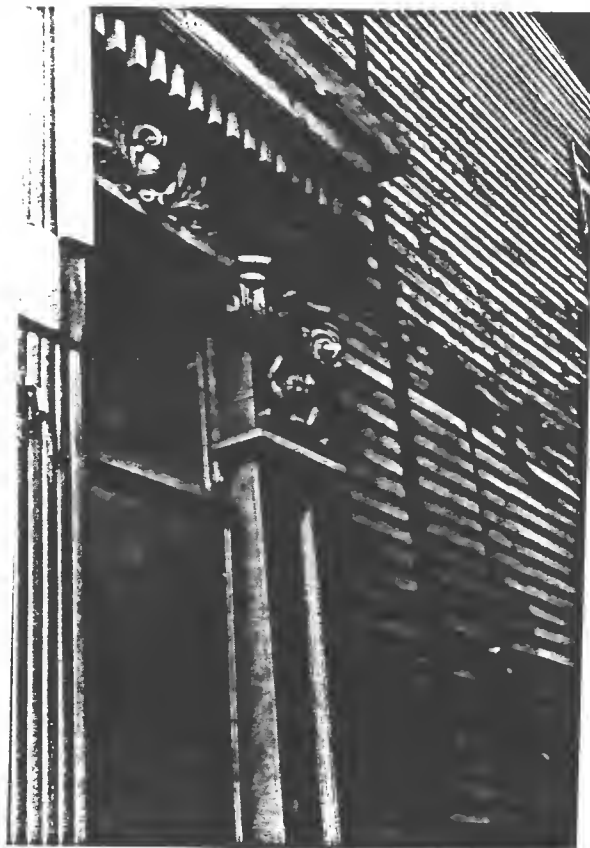


FIGURE 4

Detail: Western wall
of Dobrotinar Building
No. 1's storefront

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 55-59 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Gordon, David J., trustee The David J. Gordon Trust

2) HISTORIC NAME Dobrotinar Building No. 2/ Ebenezer Sutton House

3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial/residential

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1915 (front), ca. 1854(rear)

Naumkeag Directory of Salem - 1914, 1915
SOURCE Salem Evening News; April 12, 1905, pg. 5.

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER Solly Dobrotinar (1915)

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF residential

4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Neo Adamesque/Italianate

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION Not visible

FACADE Yellow stretcher bond brick

TRIM green enameled panels, concrete sills, lintels, metal cornice

VIEW FROM North

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 55-59 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC Good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential, institutional
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Tucked away behind a two story rectangular brick addition built in 1915 is the mansion of Ebeneazer and Eliza Sutton. This brick Italianate house was built circa 1854.¹ Its stable was located on the southern portion of its 45,360 foot square lot.² The Sutton Mansion was described as "one of the very few fine residences in town and one of its chief show cases."³ The grounds were praised for their beauty, having "handsome shrubbery and trees, and a large bronze fountain in the center of the spacious lawn."⁴ Nineteenth century views of this estate (figures 1,2) attest to the high quality of its architecture and landscaping.

Ebeneazer Sutton and his brother, General William Sutton, owned wool manufacturing businesses in North Andover and Peabody.⁵ According to the Rich Men of Massachusetts Ebeneazer Sutton was worth \$500,000 in 1851. He was a director of the Eastern Railroad and "was a prominent figure in the affairs of Peabody."⁶ After the deaths of Ebeneazer Sutton and the Sutton's son Eben Dale, Mrs. Eliza Sutton "obtained approval from George Peabody to establish the Eben Dale Sutton library to be established in the Peabody Institute."⁷ Mrs. Sutton, daughter of the prominent early 19th century Peabody land owner Jonathon Dustin died in 1889.⁸

In 1889 the property passed to Mr. and Mrs. H.K. Peaver.⁹ The Peavers sold the house to the Reverend Ambrosios Paraschakis and Reverend Polycarpus Marinakis in December 1910.¹⁰ These clergymen were the heads of the Greek Orthodox Church of New England. In 1910 two thousand Hellenic people lived in Peabody and Salem.¹¹ The Sutton Mansion was to have housed the American Greek College which was associated with the University of Greece.¹² It would have been "the only college of its kind in America" had not "friction developed between the adherents of the local Greek Orthodox Church and the promoters of the University School."¹³

The 1910 sale included the brick mansion and 15,000 square feet but did not include the stable.¹⁴ From 1913 until 1914 this building was used as a Jewish synagogue.¹⁵ In September 1913 Solly Dobrotinar of Dobrotinar Real Estate, Peabody, bought this property.¹⁶ It was noted that the old Sutton mansion was "to be remodeled into a business block with fine tenements."¹⁷ This new addition was completed by 1915.¹⁸

From 1915 until 1918 the commercial tenants were G. Collins Grocery and Provisions Company and S. and M. Sogoloff Company Dry Goods.¹⁹ The Olympia Shoe Repair was located here from the 1930's until the 1960's.²⁰ a succession of beauty salons were located in this building in the 1940's through the 1960's.²¹

Unlike its neighbor to the west the Dobrotinar name has been continuously associated with this building. Elitas Flower Shop has occupied its ground floor since the 1950's. A U.S. Army Recruiting Station occupies the western portion of this structure.

Footnotes

1. Salem Evening News, April 12, 1905, p.5.
2. Ibid., p. 5.
3. Ibid., p. 5.
4. Ibid., p. 5.
5. Wells, John A., The Peabody Story, pp. 319-321.
6. Ibid., pp. 319-321.
7. Ibid., pp. 319-321.
8. Salem Evening News, January 2, 1909. p. 9.
9. Ibid., p. 9.
10. Ibid., p. 9.
11. Salem Evening News, February 6, 1911, p. 9.
12. Ibid., p. 9.
13. Ibid., p. 9.
14. Salem Evening News, February 28, 1911, p.2.
15. Peabody Enterprise, September 4, 1914, p. 1.
16. Peabody Enterprise, September 4, 1914, p. 1.
17. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1914, 1915, 1916.
18. Ibid., 1915-1918.
19. Polk's Salem Directory, 1930, 1940, 1950, 1960.
20. Ibid., 1940, 1950, 1960.

PRESENT CONDITION

The two story commercial/apartment addition to the Sutton Mansion displays ca. 1950's storefront treatments. The upper floor features Colonial Revival decoration.

The wide display windows are enframed by thin strips of metal and are surmounted by a metal marquee. Above the marquee is a wide band of green enameled metal panels.

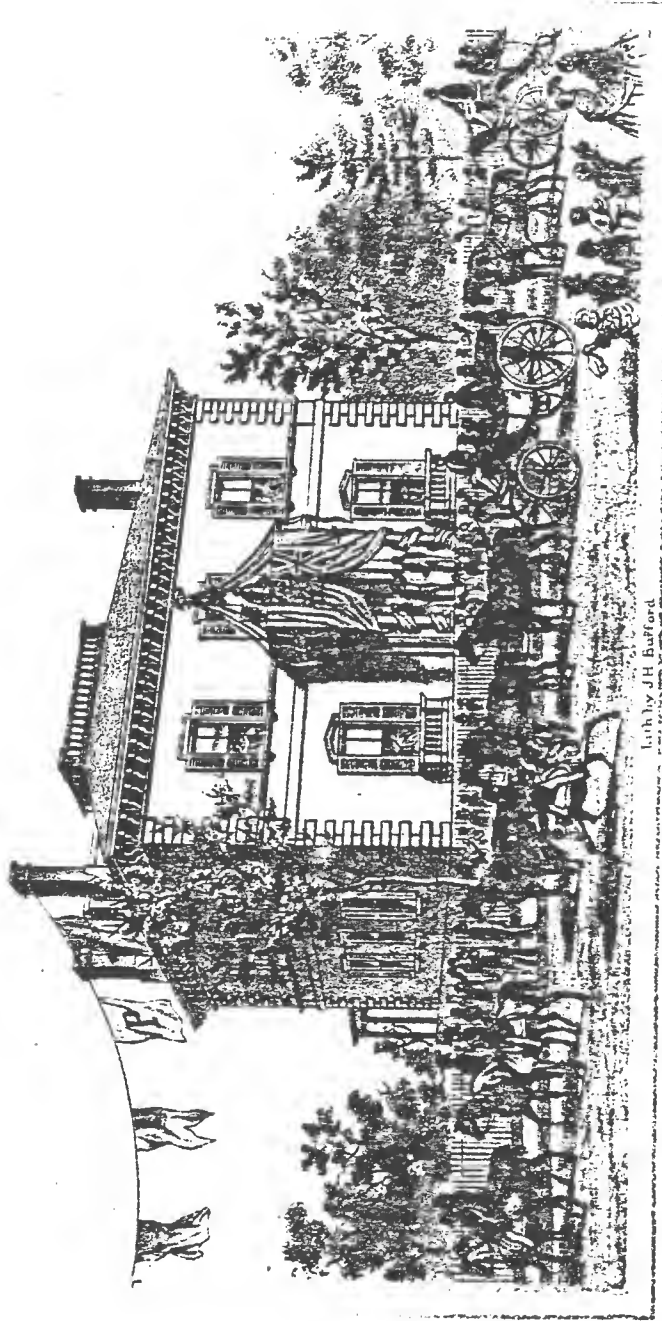
The upper floor windows have wedge-shaped cement lintels with prominent keystones. Above these windows is a cast iron frieze decorated with Neo Adamesque swags. The Main Street facade is crowned by a modillion cornice.

Behind this 1915 addition is the ca. 1854 Italianate Sutton Mansion. Its side and rear walls retain most of their original fabric.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The ca. 1950's store front treatments do not harmonize with the Colonial Revival details of the upper floor. The Main Street facade might be enhanced by the reduction of the windows size and the removal of the metal marquee and panels. Some thought should be given to the restoration of the balustrade which once surmounted the main facade. (see figure 3)



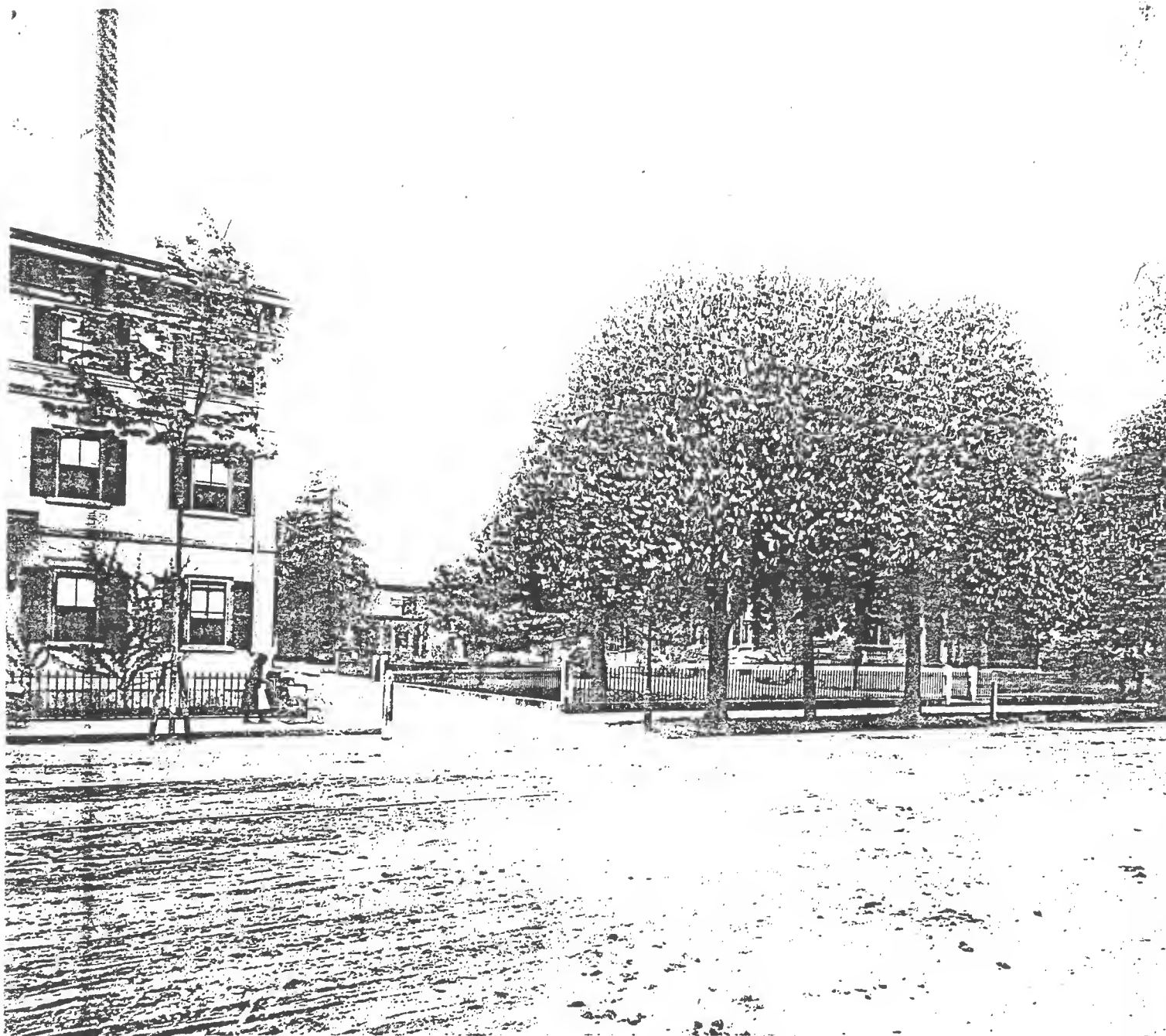


RESIDENCE OF EREN SUTTON ESQ"

Opposite Peabody Institute & Danvers

FIGURE 1

Courtesy of the Peabody Institute, Peabody



photograph courtesy of the
Peabody Historical Society

FIGURE 2

Ebenezer Sutton Estate
still extant ca. 1900



FIGURE 3

photograph courtesy of
Gordon Real Estate

Note the balustrade which
originally surmounted
Dobrotinar Building No. 2

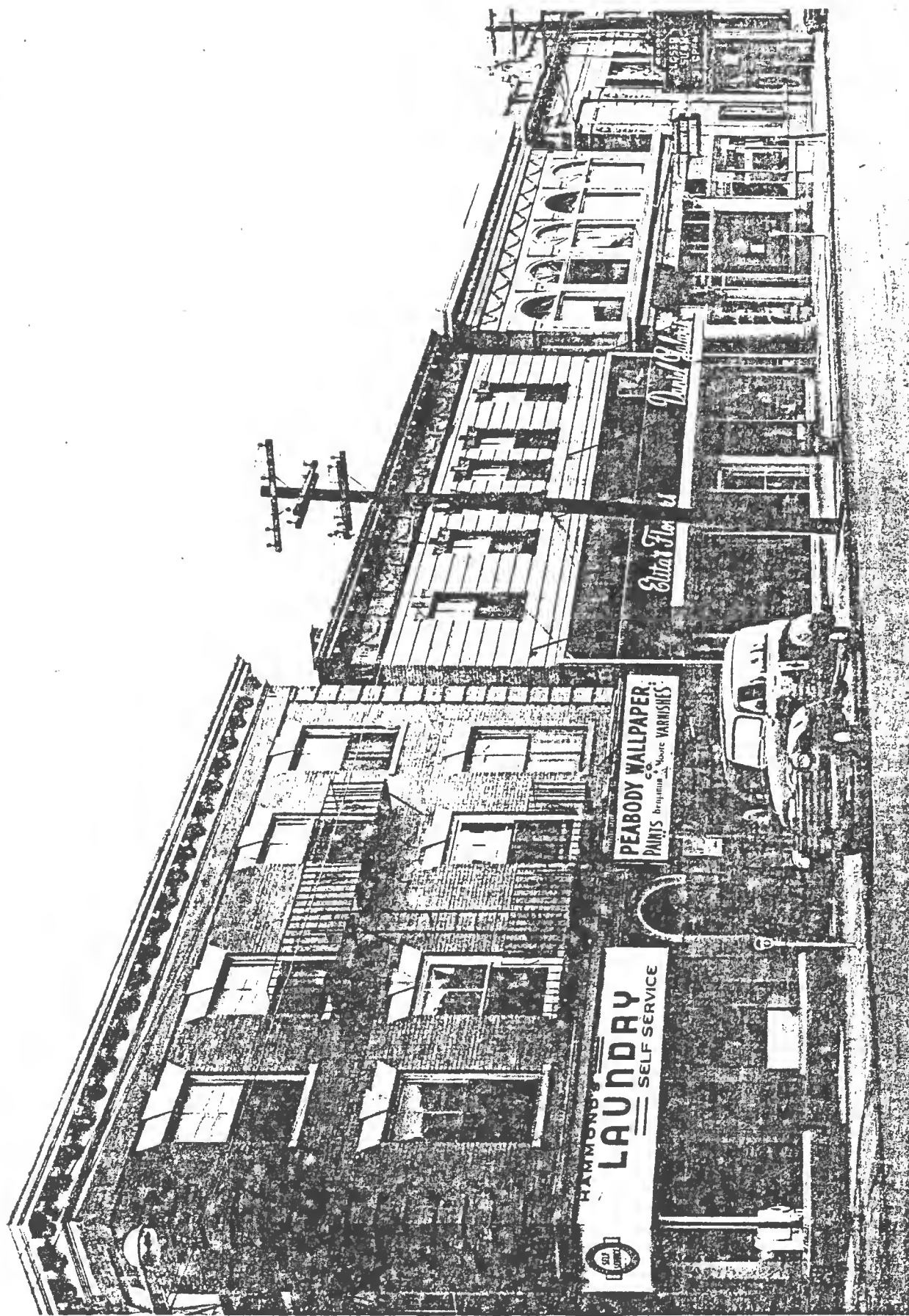


FIGURE 4

DOBROTIN BUILDING NO. 2 ca. 1950

photograph courtesy
Gordon Realty



THE SUTTON MANSION
still extant behind 55-59 Main Street
(photograph taken August 1980)

FIGURE 5

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 61-63 Main Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER Gordon, David J., trustee, the David J. Gordon Trust
- 2) HISTORIC NAME The French Block
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial/residential
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1915
- SOURCE Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1915.
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF residential
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Colonial Revival
- 2) MATERIALS:
- FOUNDATION Not visible
- FACADE red pressed stretcher bond brickwork
- TRIM concrete sills, lintels. Metal cornices
- VIEW FROM North PHOTO TAKEN June, 1980



ADDRESS 61-63 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential, institutional
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST. SETTING intact historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP. TO HIST SETTING integral to historic character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

During the late nineteenth century this corner lot (Main Street and Little's Lane) was part of the Ebenezer Sutton estate (see Report on 55-59 Main Street).¹ In 1915,² the construction of 61-63 Main Street and the Dobrotinar Buildings to the west extended the commercial activities of Peabody Square to the portion of Main Street opposite the Peabody Institute.

The first commercial tenant of 61-63 Main Street was the Standard Hardware Company.³ It was located at this address until 1930 when it moved to 39-41 Main Street.⁴

In 1935 this building became known as the French Block.⁵ The Peabody Wallpaper Company has been located in this building since the late 1930's.⁶ During the 1940's the Diamond Cafe was located at this address.⁷ The Hammond Laundry was a tenant in this building during the 1950's and 1960's.⁸ Since the 1950's the upper floors have been called the Grigway Apartments.⁹ This building is presently owned by The David J. Gordon Trust.

Footnotes

1. 1872 Essex County Atlas.
2. Naumkeag Directory for Salem, 1914, 1915.
3. ibid.
4. Polk's City of Salem Directory, 1929, 1930.
5. ibid., 1934, 1935.
6. ibid., 1938, 1940, 1950, 1960, 1970.
7. ibid., 1940, 1950.
8. ibid., 1950, 1960.
9. ibid., 1958, 1960, 1970.

PRESENT CONDITION

This three story brick building is situated at the northwestern corner of Main Street and Little's Lane. It is rectangular in plan and displays elements of the Colonial Revival style.

The storefront has wide modern display windows enframed by thin metal strips. Suspended from the second floor above the storefront is a metal marquee. Above the marquee are blue and yellow enameled metal panels. A metal sign advertising Major Pizza projects from the center of the panels.

The fabric of the second and third floors is essentially intact. Fire escapes are located in the center of the Main Street facade. The upper windows display wedge shaped Colonial Revival lintels with prominent keystones. At the corner of this building are quoins composed of raised bricks. This building is crowned by a metal modillion cornice. This building's subdued Colonial Revival Main Street facade contrasts with the exuberant decoration of the Neo-Adamesque Dobrotinar Buildings to the west.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The metal materials, primary colors, wide expanse of glass and lack of uniform signage contrast adversely with the subdued Colonial Revival surface treatments of the upper floors. Remodeling of the ground floor might encompass reducing the amount of glass by adding wooden or metal panels beneath the windows. Transoms might be installed above the display areas. This building's Main Street facade would undoubtedly benefit from the removal of the marquee and metal panels on the upper portion of the ground floor.

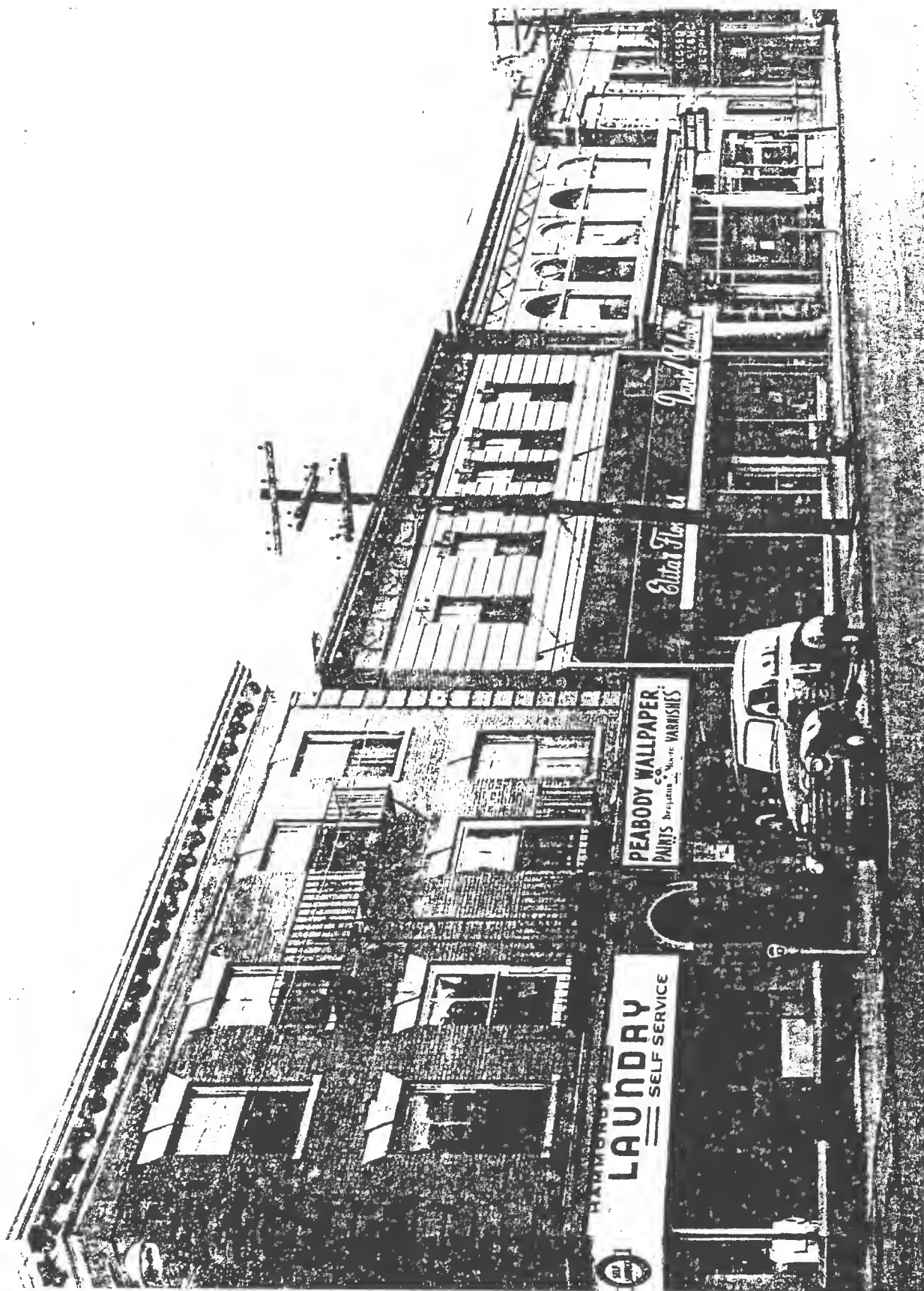


FIGURE 1

The French Block ca. 1950

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 65-75 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Gordon, David J., Trustee - The David J. Gordon Trust

2) HISTORIC NAME Savoy Chambers (front); William H. Little House (rear)

3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial/residential

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE ca. 1923 (front); ca. 1805 (rear)

SOURCE 1924-25, 1925 Naumkeag Directories; stylistic

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF residential

4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Colonial Revival; Federal with Italianate cornice

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION not visible

FACADE Main - red pressed stretcher bond brickwork; West wall - Flemish bond

TRIM cement lintels, sills; brownstone sills, lintels in rear

VIEW FROM North

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 65-75 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF intact with evolutionary changes
UF intact with evolutionary changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

During the nineteenth century the site of 65-75 Main Street was occupied by the buildings of the Saunders and Little families.¹ As early as 1812 Oliver Saunders owned a tavern on the eastern portion of this property.² Saunders family members lived in the L-shaped tavern building until the 1880's.³

Still extant on the western portion of this property is the William H. Little residence. Built ca. 1805⁴ it is tucked away behind a ca. 1923⁵ three story brick commercial/apartments addition. At the time of William H. Little's death it was noted that he was "born on September 19, 1808 in the same house in which he died, August 16, 1891."⁶ A late nineteenth century photograph of the Sutton's House shows the northwestern corner of the Little House. (figure 1) Visible is typically Federal fenestration and string courses. Its hip roof may be seen from the third floor of the Peabody Institute. The Little's probably added the Italianate cornice in the 1850's or 60's to "keep up" with the Sutton's elaborate Italianate mansion which was built to the west ca. 1860.

William H. Little, prominent in Peabody leather manufacturing, was "a man of extraordinary intellectual powers and had a marked taste for general mechanics."⁷ He was a president of the Salem and South Danvers Oil Company.⁸ He was "a valued member of the fire department for more than 30 years."⁹

William H. Little's son George H. Little, and daughter Adaline resided at this address until their deaths in the nineteen teens and twenties. George H. Little inherited his father's mechanical abilities. He was a "machinist, an inventor of various types of steam injectors and was granted over fifty patents."¹⁰ He was the manufacturer and dealer of "Little's Patent injector" as well as pipe fittings, valves, hose, rubber packing, etc.¹¹ His business was located on Foster Street.¹² (see figure 2)

Adaline Little lived in this house until 1920, when a Dr. Manoogian bought the Little Estate for \$15,000.¹³ He sold the property

in the same year to Thomas French at a profit of \$10,000.¹⁴

The three story brick addition which fronts Main Street dates to ca. 1923.¹⁵ In 1925 an annex of the Standard Hardware Company, two vacant stores and Roby's Meatmarket were located in this new addition.¹⁶ The upper floors contained hotel rooms. From the late 1920's until the 1950's the upper floors were called the Savoy chambers and later the Savoy Hotel.¹⁷ Between the late 1920's and the 1950's the ground floor shops housed a variety of commercial concerns including a tailor's shop, a leather store and a hat shop.¹⁸

Since the early 1950's Gordon Insurance, Realty has occupied the northwestern store front. During the 1950's Morgan Memorial Goodwill and A-2 Co., Inc. Liquors were ground floor tenants.¹⁹ Since the 1960's the upper floors have been known as the Sheldon Furnished Rooms.²⁰ In recent years the Century Cleaning Corporation, United Vending Company, Theo's Vanity and the Peabody Kosher Meatmarket have occupied commercial space in this building.²¹ This building represents a later chapter in the history of Peabody's commercial expansion eastward along Main Street which began in 1903 with the construction of the first O'Shea Building.

Footnotes

1. Essex County Atlas, 1872.
2. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 261.
3. Peabody Press, August 17, 1891, p.2.
4. Salem Evening News, February 4, 1920, p.7. and Peabody Directory, 1925-26.
5. Peabody Press, August 17, 1891, p.2.
6. Salem Evening News, August 16, 1891, p.4.
7. Peabody Press News, August 17, 1891, p. 2.
8. Ibid., p. 2.
9. Salem Evening News, August 16, 1891, p.4.
10. Ibid., p. 4.
11. Salem Evening News, February 4, 1920, p. 7.
12. Ibid., p. 7.
13. Ibid., p. 7.
14. Peabody Directory, 1925-26.
15. Polk's Salem Directories, 1929, 1935, 1940, 1950.
16. Polk's Salem Directories, 1930, 1940, 1950.
17. Polk's Salem Directory, 1950.
18. Polk's Salem Directory, 1960.
19. Polk's Salem Directory, 1960, 1970.
20. Polk's Salem Directory, 1960, 1970.
21. Polk's Salem Directory, 1970, 1975.

PRESENT CONDITION

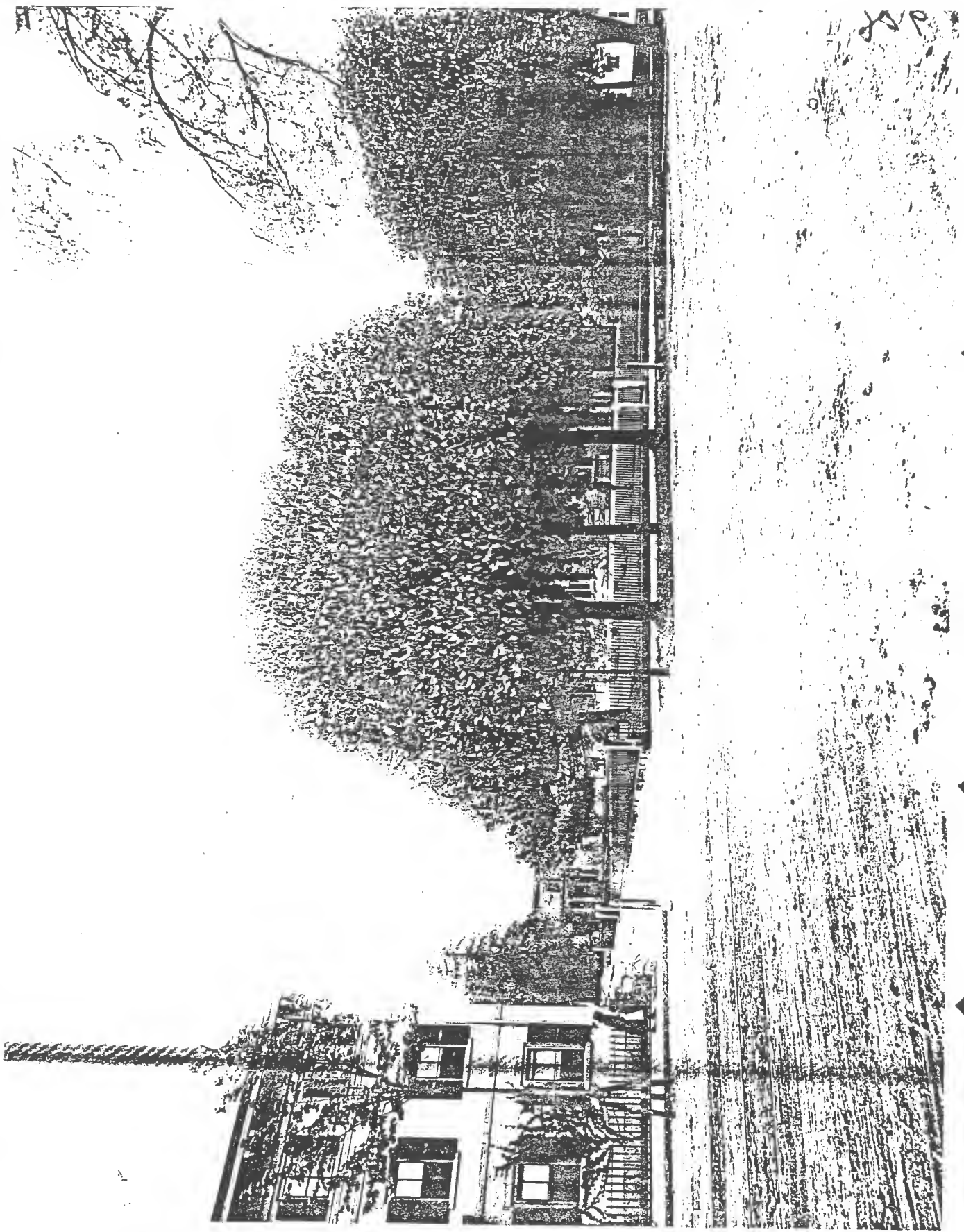
A two story brick ca. 1923 commercial/apartment block presently hides the old William H. Little House (1805) which is still extant at the northwestern corner of this property. Emphatically horizontal in massing, the Main Street facade is fourteen bays long. Quoins composed of raised bricks appear between the fifth and sixth bay from Little's Lane, as well as at the corner of the 1920's addition.

The ground floor storefront features wide modern display windows enframed by metal and brickwork. Above the stores is a metal marquee which is suspended from the second floor. Blue and red corrugated and enameled metal panels appear above the marquee. Signs of various sizes and lettering types have been applied to these panels.

The upper floors' fabric is essentially intact. The Colonial Revival surface treatments are limited to simple cement wedge-shaped lintels and a metal cornice.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A remodelling sensitive to the restrained surface treatments of the upper floors might greatly enhance this building's appearance. The display windows might be reduced in size by the addition of wooden or metal panels beneath the display areas. Transom windows might be installed above the store windows. The removal of the metal paneling would reveal the round arched entrance to the upper floor apartments. This doorway is located to the left of the Gordon Realty Office. Simple sign bands with a uniform lettering type might be placed above the display windows.



William H. Little House
Little's Lane

FIGURE 1

Sutton Estate



BENJ. J. GOODRICH'S HOUSE ON MAIN STREET.

In the third story, front middle chamber. J. L. met, 18 Feb., 1818.



William H. Little House
still extant behind its
ca. 1923 addition

FIGURE 2



FIGURE 3

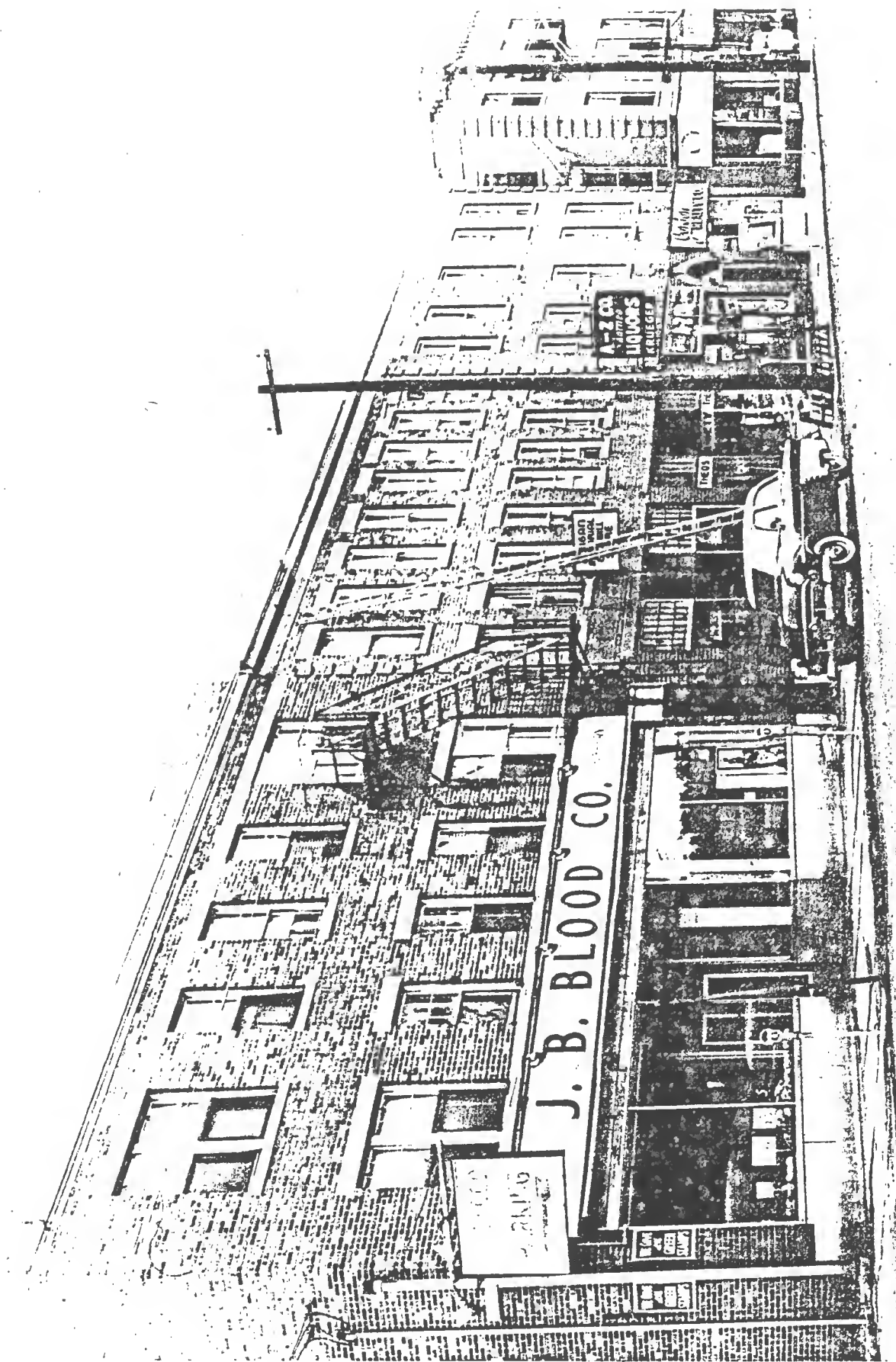


FIGURE 4



William H. Little House ca. 1805
still extant behind a 1920's
commercial/apartment addition

(photo taken August 1980)

FIGURE 5



Looking south from the third floor
of the Peabody Institute toward
65-75 Main Street. Note hip roof
of William H. Little House behind
the 1920's commercial/apartment addition.

FIGURE 6

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 77 Main Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER Gordon, David. J., trustee, The David J. Gordon Trust
- 2) HISTORIC NAME Symonds Apartments
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial/residential
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1928
SOURCE plaque on building
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF residential
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Not applicable
 - 2) MATERIALS:
FOUNDATION cement
FACADE multi-colored brick laid in stretcher bond
TRIM cement sills, lintels, banding
- VIEW FROM Northeast PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 77 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESSMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING compatible with historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

This property is labeled Mrs. Mary Saunders on late nineteenth century Essex County Atlases.¹ The present building dates from 1928.² It has been known as the Symonds Apartments since 1933.³ It may have been named for A.S. Symonds (occupation unknown) who boarded in the old Saunders house in the nineteen teens.⁴

Commercial ground floor tenants of the 1930's and 1940's included Charles R. Coan Furniture, Valaskagis Brothers Confectioners, Fay Motor Company Insurance, and J.B. Blood Company Groceries and Meats.⁵

Tenants of the 1960's and 1970's have included a succession of Radio and Television stores along with a gift shop.⁶

Peabody commercial/residential structures of the 1920's such as the Standard Building (39 Main Street) display extremely restrained surface treatments. This restraint contrasts dramatically with the elaborately decorated Neo Adamesque Dobrotinar Buildings (45,55 Main Street which were built in 1915.⁷

Footnotes

1. 1872, 1884, 1897 Essex County Atlases,
2. plaque on building
3. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1932,1933.
4. ibid., 1918.
5. Polk's City of Salem Directory, 1930, 1935, 1940, 1950.
6. ibid., 1960, 1968, 1970.
7. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1914, 1915.

PRESENT CONDITION

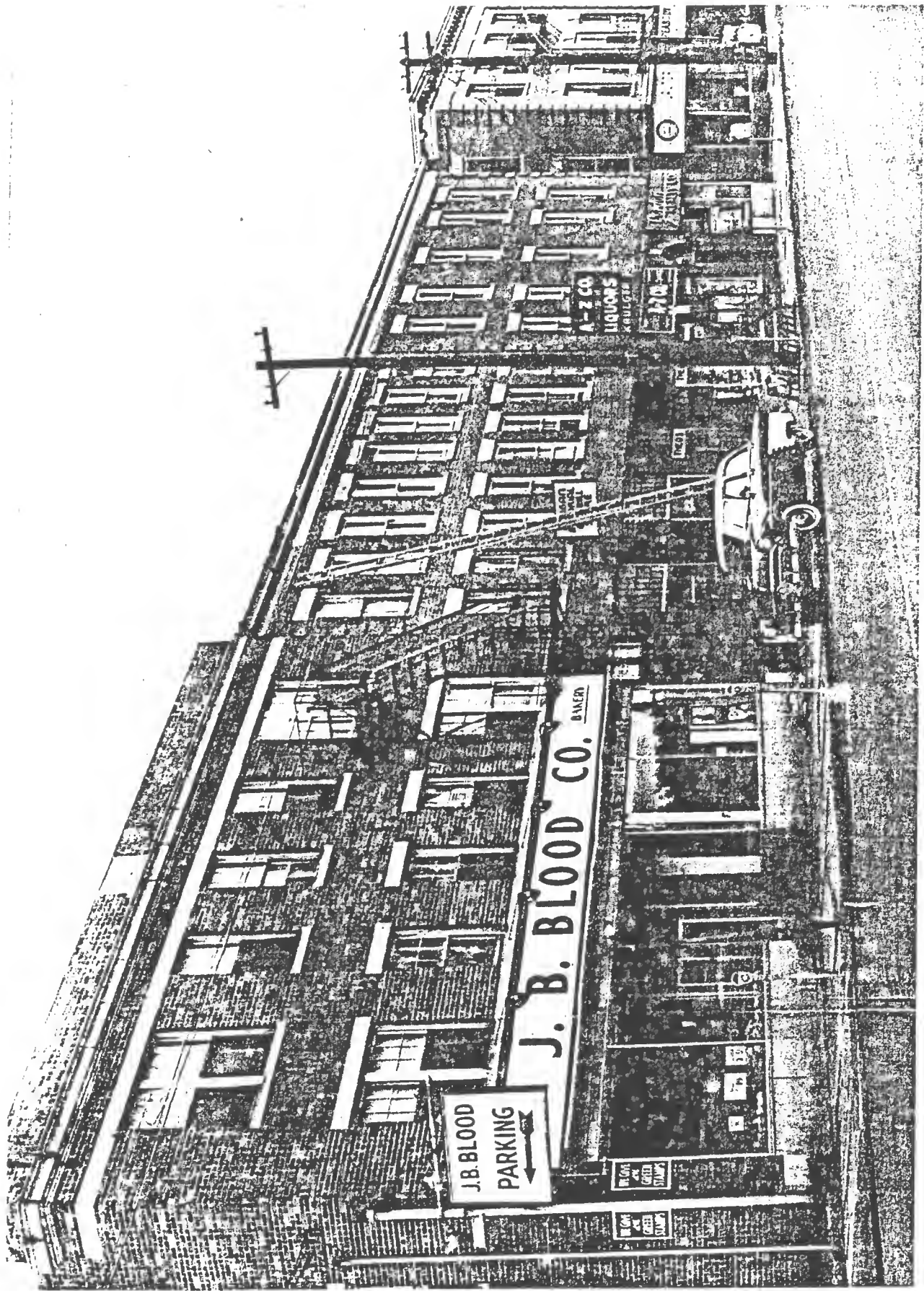
Built in 1928 to house stores and apartments this brick building is located on the southern side of Main Street between Little Lane and Washington Street. Its fabric is in good condition and is essentially intact.

The ground floor storefronts are surrounded by corrugated metal panels. Above the storefronts appear standard 1950's and 60's metal awnings and blue enameled metal panels. The facade is essentially devoid of surface treatments of a particular style. The upper floor windows display simple cement sills and lintels. A fire escape appears at the northwestern corner of the Main Street facade. This building is crowned by a parapet. In the center of this parapet is a cement panel which bears a construction date of 1928.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

To date a photograph showing this building's pre-1950 appearance has yet to be discovered. It would greatly benefit from treatments which would bring the ground floor storefront into harmony with the upper floor's unaltered facade. The metal panels and marquee which surround the storefront might be removed. The display windows might be reduced in size.

The south side of Main Street might be greatly enhanced if this building and its neighbors to the west received signs of a uniform size and lettering type.



Courtesy of Gordon Realty, Main Street
Peabody

77 MAIN STREET

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 81, 85 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER John J. Kiley, Jr., 94 Andover Street, Danvers (81)

Raymond L. Champagne (85)

2) HISTORIC NAME site of Benjamin Wheeler House

3) PROPERTY TYPE gas station (85) vacant lot (81)

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE ca. 1938

SOURCE Polk's Salem Directory 1936, 1940

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF gas station UF N/A

4) PRESENT USE: GF gas station UF N/A

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Not applicable

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION concrete

FACADE white and green enameled metal panels

TRIM metal

VIEW FROM Northeast

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 81, 85 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF intact with evolutionary changes
UF N/A
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES residential, commercial, vacant lot
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING severely disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING detracts from historic character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

An L-shaped structure appears on this site in 1872.¹ It had been built in 1822 for Benjamin Wheeler.² For many years he was an owner of Saunders, Wheeler and Torr's Tannery.³ He was also "one of the pioneers of the Salem Market House."⁴ His son, Benjamin S. Wheeler, lived in the Italianate house which is still extant across the street.⁵ (98 Main Street)

By the 1890's F.T. Arnold of Munroe and Arnold's Boston and Peabody Express Company resided at this address.⁶ George R. Felt, President and Treasurer of the Boston and Peabody Express, occupied the old Wheeler house from the nineteen teens until the 1980's.⁷

Since the late 1930's a gas station has been located at 85 Main Street. The Fay Motor Company occupied the one story cement structure which occupies the southern portion of the lot to the west (81 Main Street). This company is listed at this address from the 1940's to the 1970's.⁹

Footnotes

1. Essex County Atlas, 1872.
2. Peabody Press, December 23, 1874. p.2.
3. Ibid.
4. Ibid.
5. Essex County Atlas, 1872.
6. Essex County Atlas, 1897, plate 18; Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1884-5.
7. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1915, 1918; Polk's Salem Directory, 1930, 1935.
8. Polk's Salem Directory, 1938, 1940, 1950, 1960, 1970/
9. Ibid., 1940, 1950, 1960, 1970.

PRESENT CONDITION

see photographs

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The continuity of three story brick commercial/apartment buildings which line the south side of Main Street from Park to Washington Streets is broken by the one story structures at 81 and 85 Main Street. These lots are occupied by one story cinder block structures and asphalt paved parking areas. The impact of this void in the streetscape might be minimized by the addition of a screen of trees and shrubs along the northern border of these lots, or preferably by appropriate new 3-story construction which would restore the unity of the street.



81 MAIN STREET - formerly the Fay
Motor Company

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 89-97 Main Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER Zolotus, Dorothy P., trustee Zolotas Realty Trust,
1 Princeton Street
- 2) HISTORIC NAME Washington Apartments
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial/residential
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1924
SOURCE date on building
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF residential
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Colonial Revival
- 2) MATERIALS:
FOUNDATION not visible
FACADE multi-colored brick (stretcher bond)
TRIM concrete sills, lintels

VIEW FROM Southeast

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 89-97 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF intact with evolutionary changes
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

From the 1840's until the 1860's the residence of D. Daniels, shoe manufacturer, occupied this corner lot.¹ (see figure 1) His shoe factory was located on the site of the old Bell Tavern, now the lawn of the Thomas-O'Shea House.²

C.B. Farley owned this property from the 1870's until 1910.³ He was associated with the Essex Glue Factory on Foster Street.⁴ By 1910 Harry Stockwell, undertaker, is listed at this address.⁵

The present commercial/apartment block was constructed in 1924.⁶ The ground floor has housed a variety of commercial tenants. Its upper floors are called the Washington Apartments.

Since the 1940's McMann's Beverage Shop, Inc. has occupied the western portion of the ground floor.⁷ Kay's Beauty Salon was a tenant in this building from the 1940's until the 1970's.⁸ Several doctors' offices were located in the upper floors from the 1920's until the 1950's.⁹

Footnotes

1. H. McIntyre, Map of Danvers 1852.
2. H. McIntyre, Map of Danvers 1852.
3. Essex County Atlases 1872, 1884, 1897.
Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1910.
4. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1900.
5. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1910.
6. plaque on building
7. Polk's Salem City Directory, 1940, 1950, 1960, 1970.
8. Ibid., 1940, 1950, 1960, 1970.
9. Peabody Directory, 1925-26.
Polk's Salem Directory, 1930, 1940, 1950, 1960.

PRESENT CONDITION

Several of this building's wide display windows have been covered with brick. The original multi-paned transoms of the stores' windows are hidden beneath green, white and blue enameled paneling. The upper floors are essentially unaltered.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This building is the southwestern anchor of the Main and Washington Streets intersection. It is located to the west of the Lexington Monument. Its ground floor might be enhanced by removing the bricks which cover several wide bays which originally contained display windows. The transoms might also be uncovered from beneath metal panels. Sections of the cast stone coursing need to be repaired or replaced - particularly a section above and adjacent to the Washington Street entrance.



FIGURE 1

D. Daniels Residence - site of the present
Washington Apartments

from H. McIntyre Map, 1852.

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

- 1) CURRENT OWNER City of Peabody

2) HISTORIC NAME Lexington Monument

3) PROPERTY TYPE monument

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1835

SOURCE John A. Wells Peabody Story, p. 229

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER Asher Benjamin, Samuel Brown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF n/a UF n/a

4) PRESENT USE: GF n/a UF n/a

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Egyptian Revival obelisk

2) MATERIALS:
FOUNDATION sienite

FACADE sienite

TRIM sienite

VIEW FROM West PHOTO TAKEN August 1980

(Photo under "Evaluations and Recommendations)

ADDRESS Main and Washington Streets

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF n/a
UF n/a
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The Lexington Monument was erected in 1835 to mark the meeting place of the 300 Peabody men who fought in the Battle of Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775. The fund raising efforts of a John Lipton realized \$1,000 for the monument's construction.

The Lexington Monument's base is seven feet square. The obelisk on top of the base is twenty two feet tall. The granite for this monument was quarried on Summit Street, Peabody. Its contractor was Samuel Brown. Asher Benjamin was its designer. Benjamin was the architect of Boston's Old West Church and the Charles Street Meeting House. He was also the author of a service builders guide. Originally a cast iron fence surrounded the monument's grassy plot.

In 1964 the Lexington Monument was damaged by a speeding motorist who smashed into the monument. The monument was restored at a cost of \$5,000 in 1967. The artifacts which had been placed in its base at the time of the 1835 dedication were given to the Peabody Historical Society. Presently the monument is located at the intersection of Main and Washington Streets. Originally it stood some 25 feet to the south, in the center of Washington Street. The Lexington Monument was the first monument erected in Massachusetts to commemorate the Battle of Lexington.

Footnotes

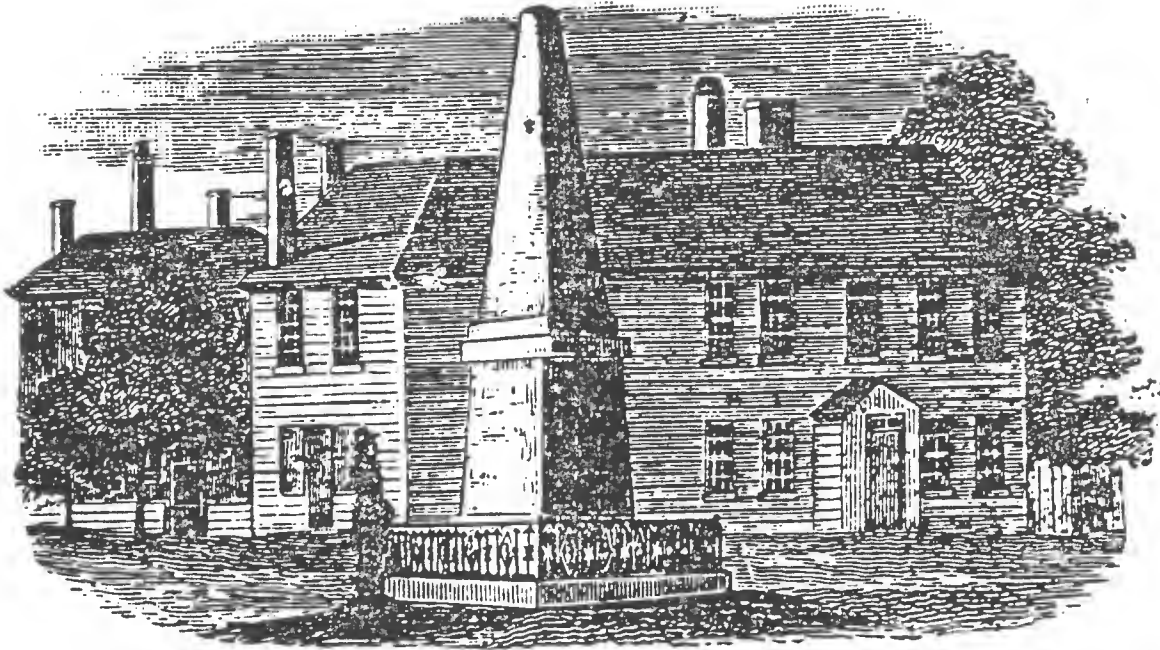
All dates, costs, dimensions, etc. have been taken from John A. Wells' Peabody Story or from the Boston Herald, March 31, 1975, p.4.

PRESENT CONDITION

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The grassy plot and cast iron fence should be re-installed around the base of the monument. (see figure 1)





LEXINGTON MONUMENT AND BELL TAVERN.

This granite monument, 22 ft. high, 7 ft. sq. at its base, completed in 1837, cost \$1,000. The inscriptions, on tablets of Italian marble, are, on the east :

Battle of Lexington, April 19th, 1775. Samuel Cook, aged 33 years; Benj. Daland, 25; George Southwick, 25; Jotham Webb, 22; Henry Jacobs, 22; Ebenr. Goldthwait, 22; Perley Putnam, 21; Citizens of Danvers, fell on that day.

PRO PATRIA MORI.

On the west : Erected by Citizens of Danvers, on the 60th Anniversary, 1835.

The Bell Tavern, the sign a bell, was the scene of the romance of Eliza Wharton, [Elizabeth Whitman, 1751-88].

MEETING PLACE OF MINUTEMEN WASHINGTON AND MAIN STREETS PEABODY. Above engraved view was made for J.W. Barber's Historical Collections of Massachusetts in 1836.

FIGURE 1



FIGURE 2

Looking north on Washington Street towards
the Lexington Monument and Main Street

view from the 1852 H. McIntyre Danvers Map

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 2 Washington Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Bettencourt, Robert A. and Helen

2) HISTORIC NAME Thomas-O'Shea House

3) PROPERTY TYPE residential

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1898

SOURCE John A. Wells, The Peabody Story, p. 383

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER James F. Callahan

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF residential UF commercial

4) PRESENT USE: GF residential UF commercial

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Colonial Revival

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION yellow brick

FACADE frame

TRIM wood, slate shingles

VIEW FROM West

PHOTO TAKEN June, 1980



ADDRESS 2 Washington Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC Good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF intact original fabric
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES residential, commercial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The old Bell Tavern was located on the site of the Thomas-O'Shea House (now Bettencourt Furniture) from 1757 until 1840.¹ It was owned by a Francis Symonds from 1757 until 1777.² The Bell Tavern had significant historical association with the Revolutionary War. It was from this tavern that the Minutemen marched to the Battle of Lexington on April 19, 1775.³ The old tavern appears in an 1836 engraving (figure 1) which was issued at the time of the Lexington Monument's dedication.⁴ In 1840 the building was razed and replaced by "a building containing stores" which was owned by the leather manufacturer David Daniels.⁵ In 1867 this building was moved to Walnut Street.⁶ An ornamental grass plot belonging to the Daniels family was located on the tavern's site until 1897.⁷ In that year J.B. Thomas built the present Colonial Revival structure for his grandson.⁸

J. B. Thomas was born in Halifax, Massachusetts in 1827.⁹ He came to Peabody in 1861 to buy the wholesale meat business of E.G. Cook.¹⁰ His meat business became "the largest carried by one individual in this area of Massachusetts."¹¹ His manufacturing interests encompassed wool, morrocco, shoes and boxes.¹² During the late nineteenth century he was the largest real estate owner in Peabody.¹³ He died on November 27, 1898, leaving a fortune of \$1,061,762.¹⁴ At the time of his death 2 Main Street was just being completed. Thomas had apparently hired the Contractor, builder, James F. Callahan to construct this elegant Colonial Revival residence.¹⁵ This property did not remain in the Thomas family. By 1900 Thomas H. O'Shea is listed at this address.¹⁶

Thomas H. O'Shea is credited with having done much "toward the development of Peabody in the retail and industrial fields."¹⁷ He was born in Peabody in 1867.¹⁸ He established a prosperous tannery

on Grove Street.¹⁹ In 1916 he purchased the Jacobs tannery on Main Street later known as the Diamond Kid Company.²⁰ At the time of his death (1920) his real estate holdings were the most extensive in Peabody.²¹ His properties included the two O'Shea buildings which are located in Peabody Square.²²

Members of the Thomas H. O'Shea family lived at 2 Main Street until 1969.²³ Bettencourt Furniture is first listed at this address in 1970.²⁴

Footnotes

1. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 256-257.
2. Ibid., p. 256.
3. Ibid., p. 256.
4. Ibid., p. 229. Engraving was made for J.W. Barber's Historical Collections of Massachusetts in 1836.
5. Ibid., p. 261.
6. Ibid., p. 261.
7. Ibid., p. 261.
8. Ibid., p. 261.
9. Ibid., p. 382.
10. Ibid., p. 383.
11. Ibid., p. 383.
12. Ibid., p. 383.
13. Ibid., p. 383.
14. Ibid., p. 383.
15. A photograph of the Thomas-O'Shea House appears in the 1908 Naumkeag Salem Directory advertisement for James F. Callahan, Carpenter. Presumably Callahan shows 2 Main Street as one of his finer architectural accomplishments.
16. 1900 Naumkeag Salem Directory.
17. Wells, John A., The Peabody Story, p. 380.
18. Ibid., p. 380.
19. Ibid., p. 381.
20. Ibid., p. 381.
21. Ibid., p. 381.
22. See National Register Nominations prepared by Brian Phieffer for the Massachusetts Historical Commission.
23. Polk's Salem Directory, 1930, 40, 50, 60, 69, 70.
24. Ibid., 1970.

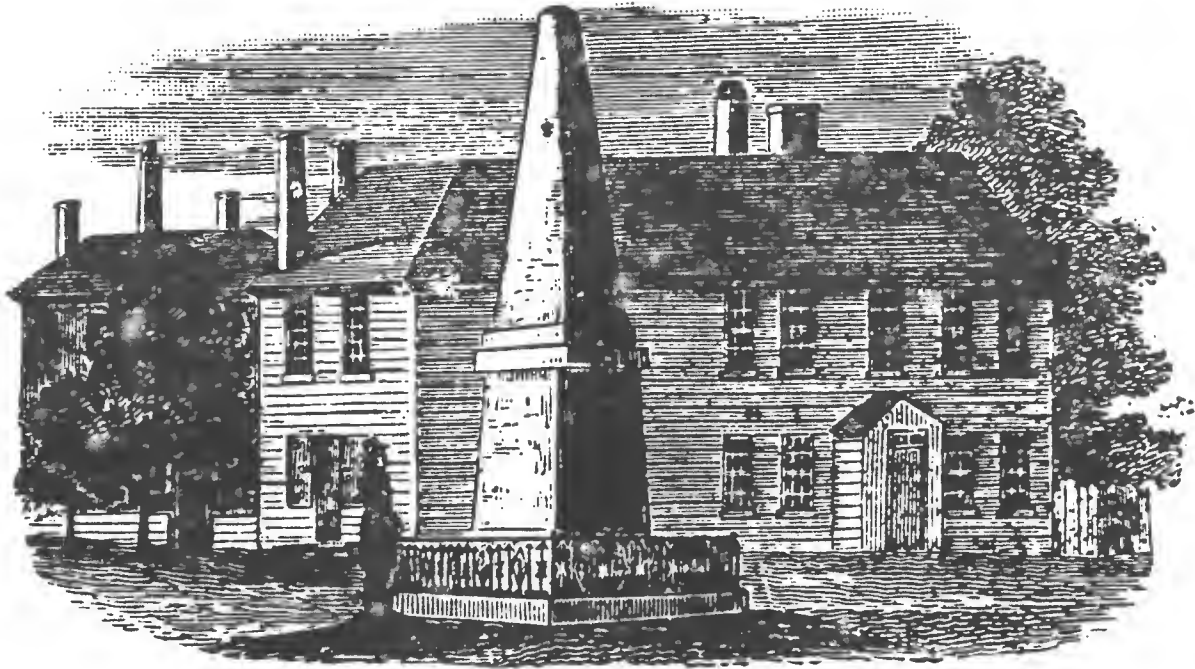
PRESENT CONDITION

The Thomas-O'Shea House, stable and grounds are in generally good condition. (see photographs)

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Thomas-O'Shea House is as fine an example of a Colonial Revival Mansion as can be found anywhere in New England. While its assymetrical plan is characteristic of Queen Ann residences its surface enrichments are Colonial Revival. A similarly rendered stable is still extant on the southeastern portion of this property. The Thomas-O'Shea House was the last architecturally significant residence to be built on Main Street (1898) before the commercial building boom transformed this thoroughfare's appearance in the early twentieth century. This house has significant historical associations with J.B. Thomas and Thomas H. O'Shea, two of Peabody's wealthiest and most influential businessmen.

The appearance of the Thomas-O'Shea House and grounds might be improved by finding an alternative means of advertising the furniture store which is located in this structure. While the house is commendably free of obtrusive applied signange several large wooden signs appear on its grounds.



LEXINGTON MONUMENT AND BELL TAVERN.

This granite monument, 22 ft. high, 7 ft. sq. at its base, completed in 1837, cost \$1,000. The inscriptions, on tablets of Italian marble, are, on the east :

Battle of Lexington, April 19th, 1775. Samuel Cook, aged 33 years; Benj. Daland, 25; George Southwick, 25; Jotham Webb, 22; Henry Jacobs, 22; Ebenr. Goldthwait, 22; Perley Putnam, 21; Citizens of Danvers, fell on that day.

PRO PATRIA MORI.

On the west : Erected by Citizens of Danvers, on the 60th Anniversary, 1835.

The Bell Tavern, the sign a bell, was the scene of the romance of Eliza Wharton, [Elizabeth Whitman, 1751-88].

MEETING PLACE OF MINUTEMEN WASHINGTON AND MAIN STREETS PEABODY. Above engraved view was made for J.W. Barber's Historical Collections of Massachusetts in 1836.

FIGURE 1

from The Peabody Story,
John A. Wells



Site of Thomas-O, Shea House

FIGURE 2

Showing Washington Street
looking North toward the Lexington
Monument and Main Street

from H. McIntyre Map, 1852



FIGURE 3

Early 20th Century postcard views of
Lexington Monument and Thomas-O'Shea House.

Courtesy of Edward Gordon

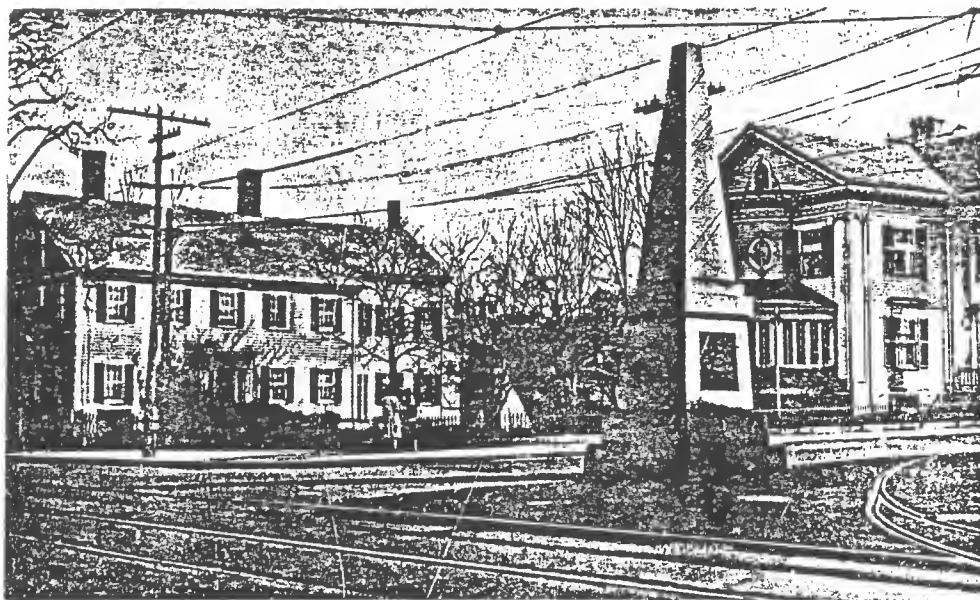


FIGURE 4

Courtesy of John A. Wells

**JAMES F.
CALLAHAN**
Carpenter
Contractor, Builder

Jobbing Promptly Attended
to and Satisfaction
Guaranteed.

14 Wallis St., Peabody
11 Highland Park. Telephone

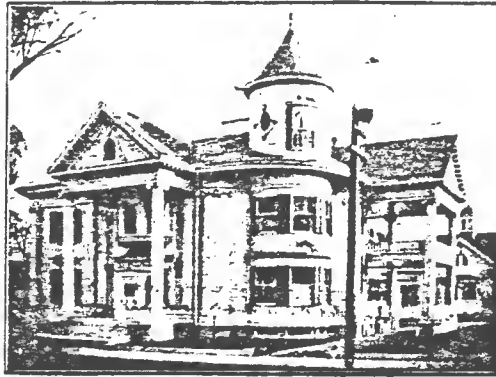


FIGURE 5

Naumkeag Directory 1908

J. B. THOMAS,
WHOLESALE DEALER IN
Beef, Mutton, Lamb and Veal.
ALSO SHEEP SKINS AND WOOL.
OAK STREET, - PEABODY, MASS.

FIGURE 6

Naumkeag Directory 1897
J.B. Thomas built the Thomas-O'Shea House
in 1898



FIGURE 7

Thomas-O'Shea stables



FIGURE 8

Thomas-O'Shea House's
Washington Street Entrance

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 120 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Berube, John T. and Lena L.

2) HISTORIC NAME S. Osborne House

3) PROPERTY TYPE residential

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE circa 1845-50

SOURCE H. McIntyre Map of Danvers - 1852.

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF residential UF residential

4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Greek Revival

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION granite blocks

FACADE frame

TRIM wooden window enframements

VIEW FROM South

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 120 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF irreversible alterations
UF intact original changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential, industrial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

This Greek Revival dwelling was built circa 1845.¹ In 1872 an S. Osborne is listed as its owner.² Osborne also owned the three structures to the east. By 1897 Otis Brown of Brown and Stanley Co. resided at this address.³ His Morroccan leather and sheep skin manufacturing shop was located at the corner of Walnut and Caller Streets.⁴ Otis Brown is last listed on Main Street in 1916.⁵

In 1918 the ground floor was first used for commercial purposes.⁶ T. Fennelly had a second hand store in this dwelling. From the late 1920's until the 1960's the National Dry Goods Company was located at this address.⁷ By 1970 the Modern Cleansers occupied 120 Main Street's storefront.⁸

Footnotes

1. This house first appears on M. McIntyre's Danvers map of 1852.
2. 1872 Essex County Atlas.
3. 1897 Essex County Atlas, plate 18.
4. 1897 Naumkeag Salem Directory.
5. 1916, 1917 Naumkeag Salem Directory.
6. 1918 Naumkeag Salem Directory.
7. 1929, 1930, 1940, 1950, 1960 Polk's Salem Directory.
8. 1970 Polk's Salem Directory.

PRESENT CONDITION

A circa 1920 storefront addition projects from this simple frame vernacular dwelling's Main Street facade. The store windows are enframed by multi-colored brickwork and metal. The upper floor and one half of the Main Street facade is covered with aluminum siding. The sides and rear of the building display clapboards. A side entrance projects from this house's eastern wall. A square metal sign advertising Modern Cleansers appears above the cornice of the storefront addition.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This structure's appearance might be improved if the storefront addition were redesigned in a manner which would more directly link it with the dwelling. The storefront might be reworked to look like a front porch with a shed roof. The present brickwork under the display windows might be replaced with wooden panels. Multi-paned transoms might also enhance the appearance of the storefront.

Pre-storefront views of this house's Main Street facade show an entrance near its southwestern corner and a bay window on its eastern portion.

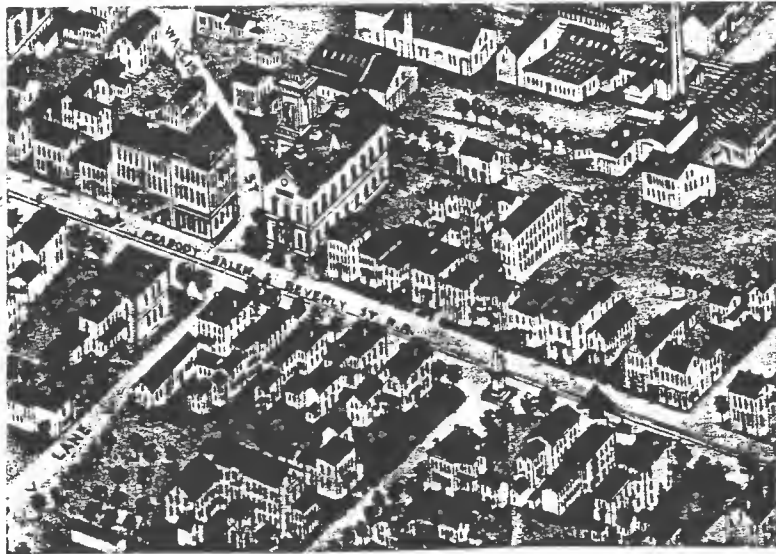


120 Main Street
H. McIntyre's Map of Danvers 1852



CENTENNIAL OF BATTLE OF LEXINGTON at meeting place of Minutemen in Peabody that marched to the opening battle of the Revolutionary War. Celebration took place at Lexington monument in 1875.

Peabody Story, John A. Wells
p. 235



120 Main Street
Bailey and Hazen View of Peabody 1877

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 116 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Hellenic Credit Union

2) HISTORIC NAME Isaac B. Elliot House

3) PROPERTY TYPE residential

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1862

SOURCE John A. Wells The Peabody Story, p. 151.

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF residential UF residential

4) PRESENT USE: GF residential UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Italianate

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION granite blocks

FACADE Main Street - modern multi-colored brick. Sides, rear -
Aluminum siding

TRIM metal window enframements.

VIEW FROM South

PHOTO TAKEN July 1980



ADDRESS 116 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good but much altered
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF major but reversible alterations
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact historical setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

(Note: For this property's pre-1862 history see report on 114 Main Street.)

The brothers Isaac B. and Lewis W. Elliot built identical residences on the site of the old Southwick Homestead (1658) in 1862.¹ The Elliot brothers were in the tanning and currying business.² Isaac's shop was located on Foster Street.³ He served as a president of the South Danvers Savings Bank and was a trustee of the Warren Five Cents Savings Bank.⁴ Isaac B. Elliot lived on the eastern portion of the former Southwick lot from 1862 until his death in 1881.⁵ Elliot family members resided here until the early twentieth century.⁶

By 1910 Dr. F.S. Worcester lived in this house.⁷ Samuel Rosen of Rosen Real Estate is listed at this address from the nineteen teens until the 1940's.⁸ By 1950 this structure housed the Workman's Circle School.⁹ In 1960 it is listed as the Workman's Circle Branch.¹⁰ Since 1970 the owner occupant has been the Hellenic Credit Union.¹¹ This credit union was formerly located at 12 Peabody Square in the old Sun Tavern building.

Before the 1960's modernizations 116 Main Street's facade treatments were identical to those of 114 Main Street. It still retains its Italianate block form, projecting porch, and hip roof. The Elliot houses serve as a focal point (along with the Lexington Monument) for the northern terminus of Main Street.

Footnotes

1. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 151.
2. Ibid., p. 343, and "Peabody Press", March 29, 1876.
3. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 343.
4. Ibid., p. 343.
5. Ibid., p. 343.
6. Essex County Atlas, 1897, plate 18.
7. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1910, 1918.
8. Polk's Salem Directory, 1930, 1940.
9. Ibid., 1950.
10. Ibid., 1960.
11. Ibid., 1970.

PRESENT CONDITION

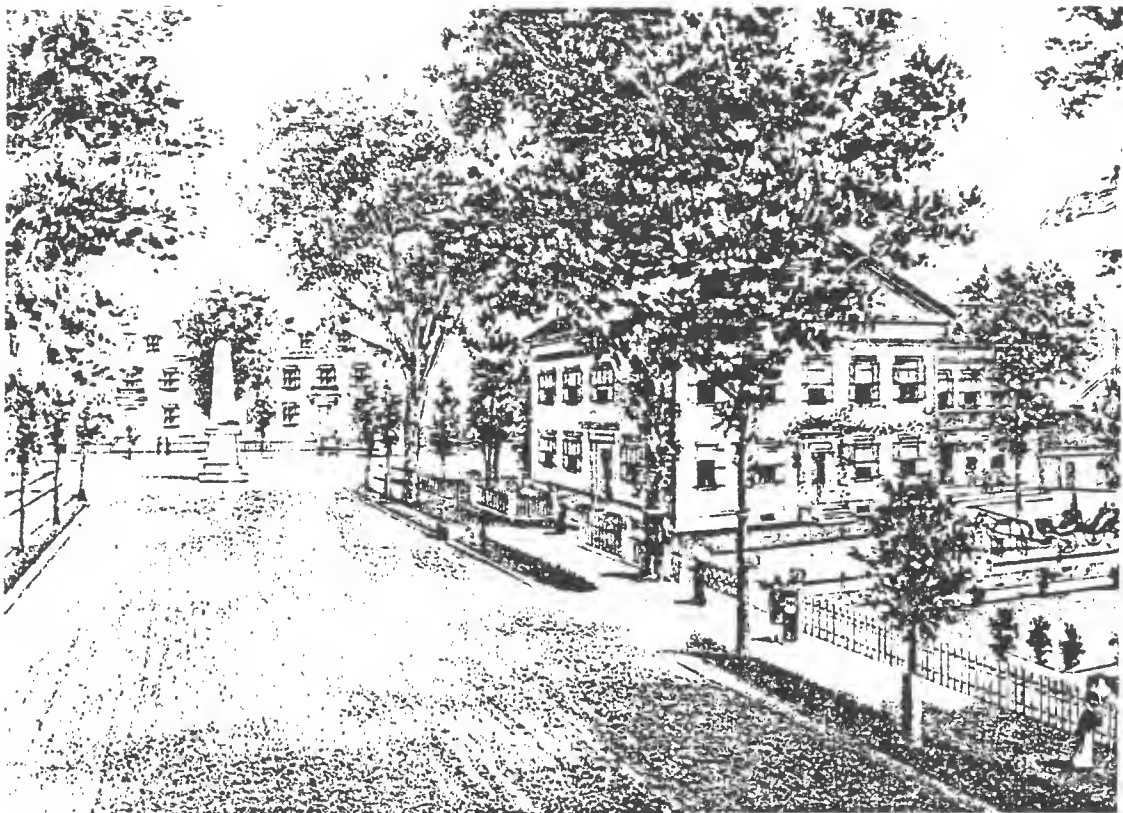
The facade treatments of 116 Main Street were identical to those of 114 Main Street until a circa 1970 remodeling. The clapboards of this Italianate dwelling have been covered by modern materials. The Main Street facade displays brickwork laid in stretcher bond. The side and rear walls are sheathed in aluminum siding.

The fenestration of the Main Street facade has been drastically altered. Originally a window was located to the west of the central entrance. This portion of the ground floor is presently covered by brickwork. To the east of the central entrance is a wide picture window which has replaced the original 2/2 window.

The central entrance's granite steps and covered porch are still intact. On top of the porch is a metal Hellenic Credit Union sign and a clock. While the second floor windows have not been altered the sawcut cornice brackets have been removed. Still intact is the hip roof and pair of dormer windows.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

While the recent alterations to this building are neat and up-to-date, they are not appropriate to the obvious historic character of the structure or the City's present program of downtown revitalization which emphasizes the area's essentially Victorian character. Planting, such as magnolia trees on either side of the entrance, and ivy on the brickwork, would at small expense do much to bring this building into more harmony with its unaltered twin house to the west.



WASHINGTON STREET 1883 WITH A.A. ABBOTT RESIDENCE AT RIGHT.

116 MAIN STREET

From John A. Wells The Peabody Story, p.355.

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 112 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Charles T. and Luz M. Angelakis

2) HISTORIC NAME Lewis W. Elliot House

3) PROPERTY TYPE residential

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1862

SOURCE John A. Wells, The Peabody Story, p. 151.

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF residential UF residential

4) PRESENT USE: GF residential UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Italianate

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION granite

FACADE frame

TRIM wood

VIEW FROM South

PHOTO TAKEN July 1980



ADDRESS 112 Main Street (Site of Lawrence Southwick Homestead ca. 1658)

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF intact original fabric
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES residential, commercial, industrial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to historic character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The identical Italianate houses of Lewis W. and Isaac B. Elliot occupy the site of the ca. 1658 Lawrence Southwick Homestead. Six generations of Southwicks lived in a seventeenth century dwelling on this property.¹ The most illustrious member of this family was Joseph Southwick Jr. who acquired this property from his brother Daniel in 1742 for 180 pounds.² He was "the first real leather manufacturer in Peabody."³

By 1847 Phillip K. Southwick, leather manufacturer, sold this property to David Pengree of Salem.⁴ In 1856 Isaac B. and Lewis W. Elliot acquired this property.⁵ Retaining rights to the lot, they sold the Southwick House to a Calvin Pierce in 1862.⁶ Pierce dismantled it and used its materials for a house he built at 41 Webster Street, Peabody.⁷ The present Italianate residences were constructed shortly after the dismantling of the Southwick Homestead.⁸

Lewis W. Elliot owned the western portion of this property.⁹ First employed at Abel Proctor's Tannery during the 1840's, he became prominent in Peabody's tanning and currying business.¹⁰

Lewis W. Elliot resided at 112 Main Street until his death on March 29, 1876.¹¹ This property remained under Elliot ownership until the 1890's.¹² By 1897, a W.F. Munroe is listed as this property's owner.¹³

From 1910 until the 1920's a Dr. H.D. Kennard occupied this house.¹⁴ During the 1930's the Main Street Beauty Shop was located on the ground floor.¹⁵ Since the 1940's this building has housed rental units.¹⁶

The Elliot Houses have significant historical associations with Peabody leather manufacturing. As early as the 1740's the seventeenth century dwelling formerly on this property housed Joseph Southwick Jr. tanner. The prosperity enjoyed by Peabody leather manufacturers during the Civil War is still evident in the substantial houses of the Elliot brothers.

The Elliot houses have long served as a picturesque backdrop for the Lexington Monument. They strengthen this monument's role as a focal point at the northern terminus of Washington Street.

Footnotes

1. - 8. have been drawn from John A. Well's The Peabody Story, p. 151.
9. Essex County Atlas, 1868, 1872.
10. Peabody Press, March 30, 1876, p. 2.
11. Peabody Press, March 30, 1876, p. 2.
12. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1890's.
13. Essex County Atlas, 1897.
14. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1910; Peabody Directory, 1925-26.
15. Polk's Salem Directory, 1930, 1936.
16. Ibid., 1940, 1950, 1960, 1970.

PRESENT CONDITION

This frame structure retains most of its original fabric.
(see photograph)

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Most of the central entrance's cast iron railing is missing. The western portion of the front yard's fence is no longer extant. These features might be reproduced and re-installed in front of the Main Street facade. The rectangular grassy plot in front of this residence could have improved planting and maintenance.



PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 106-112 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Angelakis, Charles T. and Luz M.

2) HISTORIC NAME T.E. Proctor House

3) PROPERTY TYPE residential

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE ca. 1845, ca. 1920's storefront

SOURCE Danvers map 1852, Salem Directories 1918, 1930.

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF residential UF residential

4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Greek Revival

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION brick

FACADE enameled metal panels, aluminum siding

TRIM wooden doorway enframent, freize board

VIEW FROM South

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 106 - 112 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF major and irreversible changes
UF intact with evolutionary alterations
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

This frame two and one half story Greek Revival dwelling was built circa 1845.¹ It was raised on to a brick commercial ground floor in the 1920's.²

In a deed of June 25, 1856 David Pingrie of Salem conveyed to a James Haughton this lot and "the dwelling house thereon".³ From 1865 until 1873 one of Peabody's most successful tanners and curriers lived in this house. T.E. Proctor operated a tanning and currying establishment which encompassed ten buildings on Webster Street, Peabody.⁴ His prosperity was so great that he bought a house on Commonwealth Avenue in Boston's Back Bay. He died in Boston in 1894.⁵

In 1873 Joseph Jacobs became the owner of this property.⁶ Jacobs was "one of the early tanners of the town....He carried on a tannery at the old yard in Foster Street."⁷ He died on June 17, 1888.⁸ Members of the Jacobs family lived in this house until 1918.⁹

The house was raised on to a brick commercial ground floor in the 1920's. In 1930 the A.Z. Malt Co., Hygrade Hardware and the Peabody Tire Store are listed at this address.¹⁰ In the 1940's and 1950's two liquor stores,¹¹ a radio repair shop and a shoe repair shop occupied the ground floor.¹¹ The upper floors are listed as apartments. In 1960 the storefronts are listed as vacant.¹² By 1970 the Clam Shell Cafe and a barber shop were the commercial tenants.¹³ The Clam Shell Cafe had been located for many years in the old Bushby Grocery Store building (104 Main Street).

Footnotes

1. This dwelling is first mentioned in an Essex County deed of June 25, 1856 - Book 533, leaf 281. Presumably it is the structure adjacent to the Southwick structure's western wall on the H. McIntyre map of 1852. Stylistic considerations point to a construction date of circa 1845.

2. The 1918 Naumkeag Salem Directory lists this structure as a residence. By 1930 several shops are listed at this address.
3. Essex County Registry of Deeds; Book 533, leaf 281.
4. Peabody Press, June 27, 1894, p.2.
Essex County Registry of Deeds, Book 683, leaf 191.
5. Peabody Press, June 27, 1894.
6. Peabody Press, June 20, 1888, p. 2.
7. Ibid., p. 2.
8. Ibid., p. 2.
9. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1918.
10. Polk's Salem Directory, 1930.
11. Polk's Salem Directory, 1940, 1950.
12. Ibid., 1960.
13. Ibid., 1970.

PRESENT CONDITION

This two and one half story frame structure has been raised on to a brick "pedestal". Projecting from the circa 1920 brick ground floor is a rectangular one story storefront addition. The storefront's windows are enframed in green enameled metal panels. A metal sign advertising Charlie's Clam Shell Restaurant is situated above the western portion of the addition.

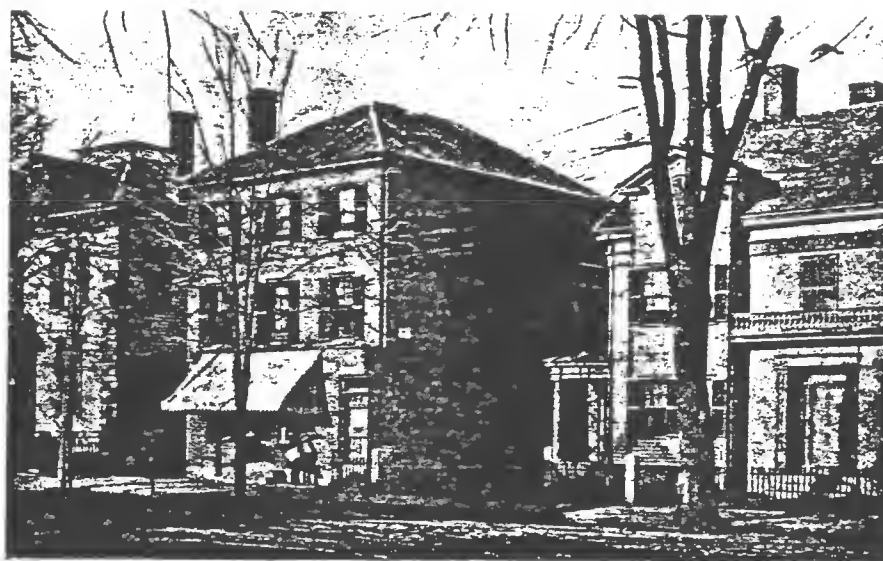
The old T.E. Proctor House is completely swathed in aluminum siding. This siding hides the original wooden window enframements. Still visible is the central entrance which is surrounded by wooden Doric pilasters and a classicized entablature. The railing and balusters above the central entrance are missing. (see Figure 1)

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Structurally the T.E. Proctor House is one of Peabody's most unusual mid-nineteenth century dwellings. Its Greek Revival main block would not be of much interest were it not for the pair of symmetrically placed bays which project from its Main Street facade. These narrow bays extend above the cornice line and culminate in return eave gables. The bays may be original to this ca. 1845 residence. The outline of the bays appears in the 1868 Essex County Atlas.

The ground floor storefront and the raised main block are presently covered with the most up to date materials - (Green metal enameled panels and aluminum siding). It would be more in keeping with the historic nineteenth century character of this building to cover the restaurant in a different material and uncover the T.E. Proctor house's clapboards. It might also be advisable to re-install the porch railing with its turned balusters which surmounted the old central entrance. The house's appearance might also benefit from the re-introduction of shutters. (see Figure 1)

A covered porch once projected from the southwestern corner of the house. This raised dwelling retains its old entrance's classic enframement as well as its wide freize board.



BRICK BUILDING ON MAIN STREET.

In which is Mr. Bushby's store. In 1848 the third story was used by the I. O. O. F., and was then known as Odd Fellows' Hall. This hall was used by J. L., 28 Oct., 1846.

FIGURE 1

T.E. Proctor House

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 104 Main Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER Bolla, Americo J.; Trustee of AMLOMAY Trust,
108 Main Street
- 2) HISTORIC NAME Union Store/Bushby's & Company Grocery Store
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial/residential
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1830
SOURCE plaque on building
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF residential
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Federal
- 2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION granite blocks

FACADE Front - whitewashed stretcher bond brickwork. Rear and sides -
common bond.

TRIM FG - granite lintels, sills, steps. UF - brownstone sills, lintels.

VIEW FROM South

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 104 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC Fire - May 1980
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES lack of maintenance
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF intact with evolutionary changes
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact with minor changes
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Along with the Allen Block and the Dennison Wallis House, the old Bushby and Company Grocery Store building is one of Peabody's finest Federal style structures. Built in 1830,¹ this three story brick building was originally known as the Union Store.² On May 3, 1871, Horace Bushby and Moses E. Johnson opened a grocery store in this building.³ It had been previously owned by an Edward J. Jacobs.⁴ Johnson left the partnership in 1879.⁵ Bushby and Co. "First Class Groceries" conducted business in this building until the mid-1930's.⁶

During the 1940's the Demetrios Petranos Restaurant was located in the old Bushby Store.⁷ The Clam Shell Restaurant, currently located at 104 Main Street, was listed at this address from 1950 until the 1960's.⁸ Until recently Las "3" Antillas Grocery occupied the ground floor.⁹ For many years the upper floors housed apartments. This building is presently vacant.

Footnotes

1. date on building.
2. Salem Evening News; February 16, 1910, p. 2.
3. Ibid., p. 2.
4. Ibid., p. 2.
5. Peabody Press; October 8, 1879. p. 4.
6. Polk's Salem Directory; 1934, 1935, 1936.
7. Ibid., 1940.
8. Ibid., 1950, 1960, 1970.
9. Ibid., 1970, 1975.

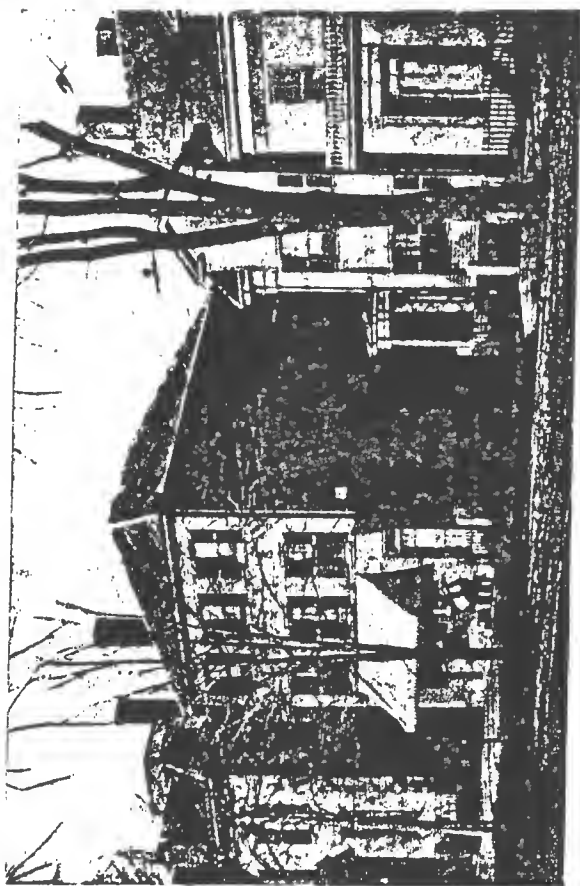
PRESENT CONDITION

This three story Federal style structure is of a rectangular plan and has a hip reof. Its narrow sides face Main Street and a parking area to the rear. This building is presently vacant. A fire in May 1980 gutted the ground floor store. The storefront's display windows are covered with wood panels. The granite lintel above the storefront is painted red. Most of the second floor windows are devoid of glass panes. These openings are presently covered with plastic sheeting. The brownstone sills and lintels of the upper floor windows show signs of deterioration due to weathering. White paint is peeling from the building's red brick walls.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

While Federal style residences may abound in many New England towns few pre-1840 commercial buildings are still extant. The Bushby building, built in 1830, deserves a rehabilitation worthy of its unique status as an early Peabody business/residential structure.

A rehabilitation program might begin with the installation of new sash and 6/6 lights for the upper floor windows. A great percentage of this building's historic character could be recaptured by the removal of the white paint which covers its red bricks. A new use should be found for its storefront - perhaps a salad bar type of restaurant would bring a new vitality to this building. The addition of window boxes and shutters might enhance the appearance of the upper floors.



BRICK BUILDING ON MAIN STREET.

In which is Mr. Bushby's store. In 1848 the third story was used by the I. O. O. F., and was then known as Odd Fellows' Hall. This hall was used by J. L., 28 Oct., 1846.

FIGURE 1

BUSHBY & CO.,
First Class Groceries,
76 Main Street, - - Peabody.

DEALERS IN

TEAS, COFFEES,

Sugars, Molasses, Spices,

FLOUR,

Meal, Oats, Feed,

CROCKERY,

Earthen and Wooden Wares,

KEROSENE OIL, &C.

BUSHBY & CO.,

76 Main Street,

PEABODY, MASS.

FIGURE 2

Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1884

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 98 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Estate of Basil Smyrnios

2) HISTORIC NAME B.S. Wheeler House

3) PROPERTY TYPE residential

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE ca. 1857

SOURCE Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 532, leaf 98

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF residential UF residential

4) PRESENT USE: GF vacant UF vacant

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Italianate

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION granite blocks

FACADE frame

TRIM wooden window enframements

VIEW FROM South

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 98 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC needs major repair
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES lack of maintenance
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF intact with evolutionary changes
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to historic setting.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

B.S. Wheeler bought this property from David Pingree of Salem in June of 1856.¹ No mention is made of the existence of a house on this property. This Italianate dwelling probably dates to 1857. B.S. Wheeler worked for Saunders, Wheeler and Torr's Tannery.² His father, Benjamin Wheeler was a partner in the business and lived across the street on the site of the present Champagne Brothers Service Station.³ B.S. Wheeler resided at this address until his death on December 13, 1904.⁴

From 1905 until 1916 E. H. Porter lived in this house.⁵ E. H. Porter was the contractor who built the O'Shea Building in 1903.⁶ His office was located at 27 Lowell Street. E. H. Porter "fell into a vat at the American Glue Co.'s works and drowned on April 27, 1916."⁸

By 1930 a Phillip A. Reedy, Druggist, occupied the old Wheeler residence. During the 1940's furnished rooms and doctors' offices were located in this structure. From the 1950's until the mid-1970's B.S. Hardware was the ground floor tenant while Basil Smyrnios' furnished rooms were located on the floors above. The one story storefront addition probably dates to the B.S. Hardware store's initial 1950's occupancy.

Footnotes

1. Essex County Registry of Deeds, Book 532, leaf 98.
2. Salem Evening News; December 14, 1904, p.2.
3. see report on 85 Main Street
4. Salem Evening News; December 14, 1904, p.2.
5. Naumkeag Salem Directories; 1905, 1916.
6. Naumkeag Directory; 1908 - Advertisements, p.1190.
7. Naumkeag Directory; 1908 - Advertisements, p. 1190.
8. Salem Evening News; May 2, 1916, p. 1.

PRESENT CONDITION

Currently vacant, this frame structure is in need of paint and repairs. A frame one story commercial addition hides this Italianate residence's projecting central entrance and windows which display Renaissance enframements. The main facade is enriched by clapboards rusticated to resemble stone and its corners are formally finished with quoins. It has a hip roof. The southern slope of the roof displays a pair of dormer windows. Tall chimneys project from the eastern and western edges of the roof.

RECOMMENDATIONS

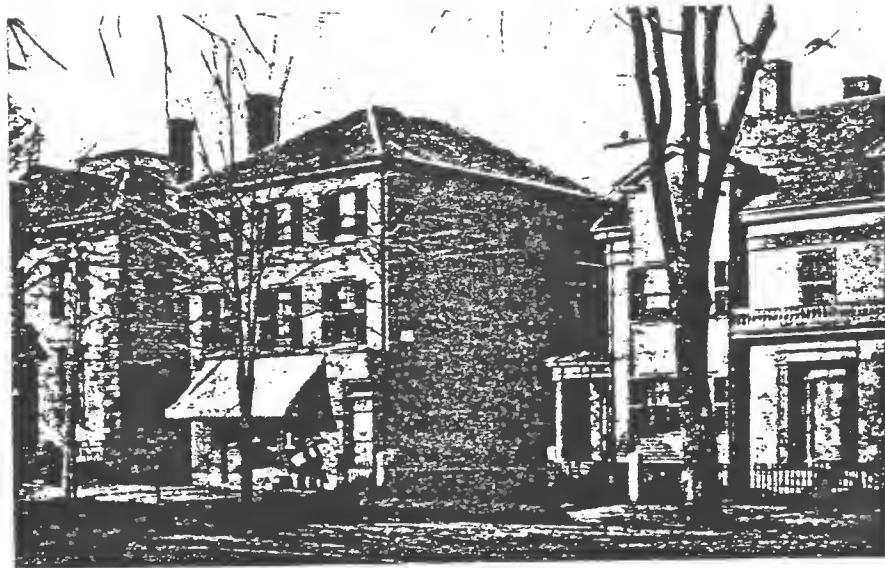
The B.S. Wheeler House is one of Peabody's most handsome Italianate residences. It could be returned to its original appearance with relatively little difficulty, as much of its original ground floor facade is still intact behind the storefront addition. For a detailed view of this house's original appearance see Figure 1.



98 MAIN STREET
PEABODY, MASSACHUSETTS

Courtesy of John A. Wells

FIGURE 1



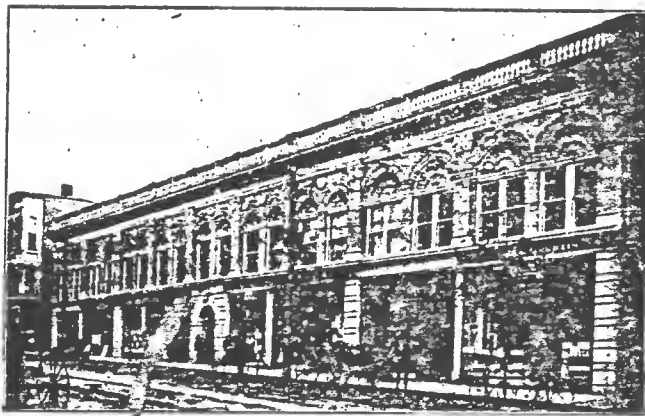
BRICK BUILDING ON MAIN STREET.

In which is Mr. Bushby's store. In 1848 the third story was used by the I. O. O. F., and was then known as Odd Fellows' Hall. This hall was used by J. L., 28 Oct., 1846.



98 Main Street

FIGURE 2



O'SHEA BUILDING, PEABODY, BUILT BY



E. H. PORTER CO.

CONTRACTORS AND BUILDERS

LIME, SAND AND CEMENT AT WHARF PRICES. LICENSED DRAIN LAYERS.
 MASON WORK IN ALL ITS BRANCHES. SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO
 HIGH GRADE BOILER SETTING. TELEPHONE CONNECTION.
Office, 27 Lowell St. Residence, 74 Main St., Peabody.

Lived in B.S. Wheeler
 House 1905-1916

Naumkeag Salem Directory - 1908

FIGURE 3

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 96 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Knights of Coumbus Leo Council 508

2) HISTORIC NAME Knights of Columbus Leo Council 508

3) PROPERTY TYPE institutional

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1950

SOURCE Polk Salem Directories

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF club UF club

4) PRESENT USE: GF club UF club

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Colonial Revival

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION cement

FACADE red brick

TRIM wood pilasters, entablature (painted white)

VIEW FROM South

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 96 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC excellent
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF intact original fabric
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, industrial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING compatible to historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

This building was constructed circa 1950.¹ During the late nineteenth century this site was occupied by the houses of an S. Harriss and a Mrs. S.E. Elliot.² By 1897 only the Elliot house on the eastern portion of this property was extant.³ In 1910 Arthur Elliot is listed at this address.⁴ By 1918 P.E. Reidy druggist occupied the Elliot house.⁵ Between 1930 and 1950 Boston Dry Goods and a grocery store were ground floor tenants.⁶

Further study is necessary to determine if the old Elliot house or a portion of it is encased within the present psuedo Georgian building. The Knights of Columbus Leo Council 508 have been located at this address since 1950.⁷

Footnotes

1. Polk's Salem Directory; 1949, 1950, 1951.
2. Essex County Atlases; 1868, 1872.
3. Essex County Atlas; 1897.
4. Naumkeag Salem Directory; 1910.
5. Naumkeag Salem Directory; 1918.
6. Polk's Salem Directory; 1930, 1940, 1950.
7. Polk's Salem Directory; 1949, 1950, 1951.

PRESENT CONDITION

This structure's brick fabric is in good condition. Its main facade displays Colonial Revival treatments (see photographs).

RECOMMENDATIONS

The metal canopy above the central entrance appears to be incompatible with the handsome colonial doorway. It might be advisable to remove the metal rectangular sign which projects from the second floor's eastern portion. Shrubs and flower beds might be planted in this building's front yard and along the sides of the building which are adjacent to asphalt parking areas.



Buildings on the site of the
Knights of Columbus
from Bailey and Hazen's "View of Peabody", 1877

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 94 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Ciarfice, Peter and Lillian A.

238 Forest Street, Medford

2) HISTORIC NAME Dennison Wallis House

3) PROPERTY TYPE Residential

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1810

SOURCE Wells, John A. Peabody Story; p.256

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF residential UF residential

4) PRESENT USE: GF residential UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Federal

2) MATERIALS:

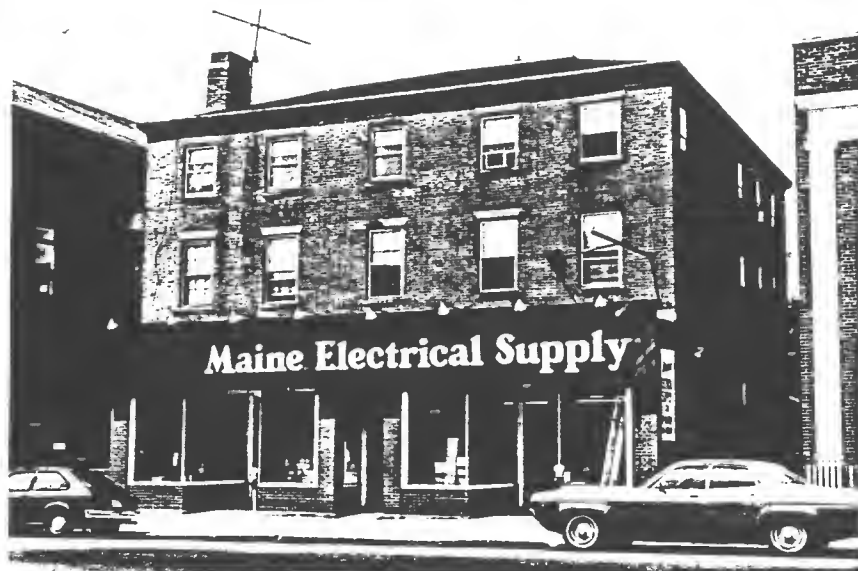
FOUNDATION Granite blocks

FACADE orange-red Flemish bond brickwork

TRIM brownstone sills, lintels

VIEW FROM South

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 94 Main

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF major but reversible
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES industrial, commercial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact with minor changes
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Built in 1810,¹ this brick Federal Style dwelling was originally owned by Dennison Wallis.² Born in Ipswich in 1756, Wallis fought with the minute men in the Battle of Lexington.³ He was "engaged as a blacksmith, later becoming a tanner."⁴ The considerable size and elegance of 94 Main Street suggests that Wallis prospered as a Peabody tanner. Active in civic affairs, he was a member of the General Court and a benefactor to the school district.⁵

The Peabody Institute bought the Wallis House at some point in the 1860's.⁶ By the early twentieth century this property was sold to D.P. McCarthy. He operated a lodging house at this address until 1918.⁷

Occupied by C.H. Staples, electrician, during the 1920's⁸ this house was vacant by 1930.⁹ During the 1940's and 1950's the ground floor tenant was a Boston Dry Goods Store.¹⁰ The upper floors contained apartments. Peabody Wholesale Electric Supply Store was a tenant during the 1960's and early 1970's. The present ground floor commercial concern is Maine Electric Supply.

Footnotes

1. Wells, John A.; Peabody Story, p. 256.
2. Wells, John A.; Peabody Story, p. 256.
3. Salem Evening News; May 10, 1908, p. 2.
4. South Danvers Wizard; April 11, 1860, p.2.
5. Salem Evening News; May 10, 1908, p.2.
6. This property appears as part of the Peabody Institute in Essex County Atlases, 1868 and 1872.
7. Naumkeag Salem Directories; 1905, 1910, 1920.
8. Peabody Directory; 1925-26.
9. Polk's Salem Directory; 1930.
10. Polk's Salem Directory; 1930.
11. Polk's Salem Directory; 1960, 1970.

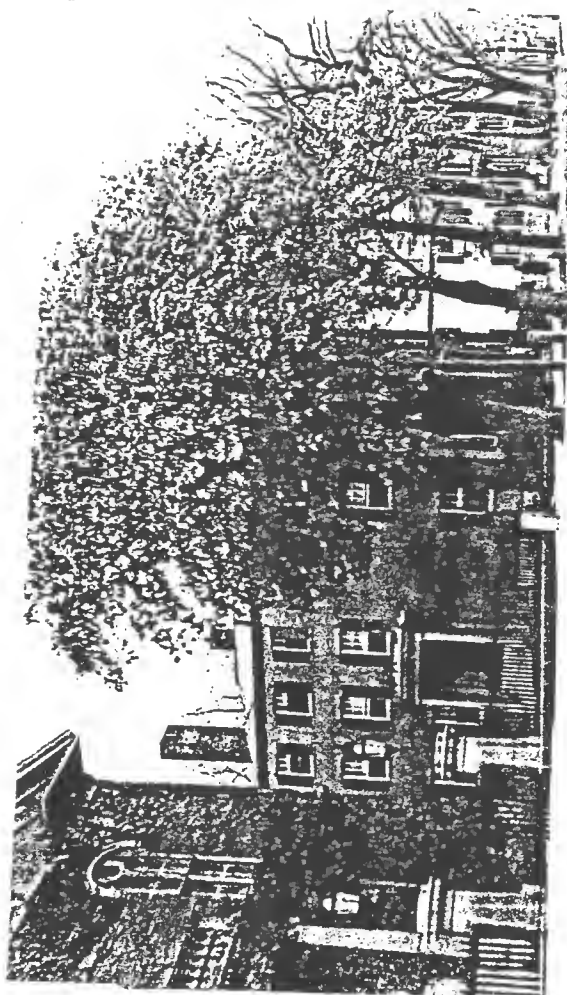
PRESENT CONDITION

This three story Federal style residence is of a rectangular plan and has a hip roof. A one story modern brick storefront projects from the Main Street facade. A central entrance provides access to the apartments on the upper floors. Flanking this entrance are storefronts which have their own recessed central entrances. A wide sign composed of diagonal planking appears above the storefront. It reads, "Maine Electrical Supply."

The main facade's upper floors are five bays wide. Typically Federal are the brownstone sills and wedge shaped lintels, modillion cornice and hip roof. The western wall of this dwelling displays the wide brownstone lintel of the bricked over side entrance (see Figure 1). The orange-red flemish bond brickwork of this structure is in good condition.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Dennison Wallis House is the finest Federal style brick residence still extant in Peabody. It has significant historical associations with Dennison Wallis, a well-to-do Peabody tanner. For many years it was owned by its neighbor to the west, the Peabody Institute. This house exemplifies one of the ways Peabody residences were adapted for commercial uses during the early twentieth century. Fortunately its Main Street facade escaped the fate of the 1805 Little residence, which is hidden from view behind a three story addition. The Wallis House's storefront addition is a single story in height. Presently its storefront displays one of Peabody's better signs. This sign, however, might be reduced in size. The store's interior displays fine pressed tin ceilings and walls.



DENNISON WALLIS HOUSE

94 MAIN STREET

Courtesy of John A. Wells

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 82 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Peabody Institute Library

2) HISTORIC NAME Peabody Institute Library

3) PROPERTY TYPE Library

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1854

 SOURCE see National Register Nomination

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER _____

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF library UF library

4) PRESENT USE: GF library UF library

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Italianate

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION granite

FACADE red brick

TRIM sandstone

VIEW FROM South

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 82 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC excellent
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF altered (removal of side tower)
UF altered (removal of side tower)
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

see National Register Nomination



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Massachusetts

COUNTY:
Essex

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Peabody Institute Library

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Peabody Institute Library

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Peabody

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
6th

STATE:
Massachusetts

CODE:
025

COUNTY:
Essex

CODE:
009

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____
---	---	--	---	--

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Trustees of the Peabody Institute Library

STREET AND NUMBER:
Peabody Institute Library, Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Peabody

STATE:
Massachusetts

CODE:
025

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Essex County Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Salem

STATE:
Massachusetts

CODE:
025

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Inventory of Historic Places

DATE OF SURVEY:

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Massachusetts Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
40 Beacon Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Boston

STATE:
Massachusetts

CODE:
02108

CODE:
025

STATE:
Massachusetts

COUNTY:
Essex

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian:☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☒ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal☒ Education☐ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☐ Religion/Phi.☐ Other (Specify)☐ Historic☐ Industry☐ Philosophy☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Science☒ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Sculpture☒ Art☐ Architecture☐ Social/Human-☐ Commerce☒ Literature☐ itorian☐ Communications☐ Military☐ Theater☐ Conservation☐ Music☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The construction of the Peabody Institute Library was made possible by consecutive monetary gifts, eventually totalling \$200,000, from George Peabody, international merchant, banker and philanthropist who grew up in the town of Peabody. The cornerstone was laid in 1853 with the Honorable Abbott Lawrence in charge of the ceremony. When the building was completed and dedicated in September, 1854, Rufus Choate delivered the dedication address; at this time the building was named for its benefactor George Peabody. Fourteen years later (1868), when the town of South Danvers separated from Danvers, it too was named for Mr. Peabody.

The first course of lectures given at the Institute began in November, 1854, and many prominent people, including Oliver Wendell Holmes and Ralph Waldo Emerson, were guest lecturers here over the years.

George Peabody's philanthropy knew no geographical limitations. He made large gifts to numerous towns in both the United States and in England, libraries, institutes and establishing educational funds. He contributed to churches, colleges, and, in 1862, he established a trust fund, for housing the poor of London, which eventually amounted to \$3,000,000. For this he was honored by Queen Victoria who offered him a baronetcy. Upon his refusal, she presented him with an enameled miniature portrait of herself framed in solid gold, studded with jewels. This miniature, as well as Peabody's many other golden awards, representing the honors bestowed upon him, are a permanent part of the Peabody Institute Library's collection. They are exhibited in an illuminated vault, built into a wall on the first floor. This vault opens for public view of the treasures.

Fitch Poole was the first and a long-time librarian, serving from 1854 to 1873 (with the exception of 1855). He was a member of the state legislature, town school committee, Board of Selectmen, and was appointed postmaster of Peabody by President Lincoln. He first served as editor of the Danvers Courier and later of the Peabody Press. A distinguished writer, he was considered by Oliver Wendell Holmes to be "the most genuine humorist in New England".

According to historian Thomas Carroll, this library is the "oldest free public library in America which has continued in active service at the same location and practically under the same conditions as when its doors first opened".

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☒ Excellent☐ Good☐ Fair

(Check One)

☐ Deteriorated☐ Ruins☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☒ Altered☐ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The two-storey Peabody Institute Library, Peabody, Massachusetts, is located at Peabody Square, on Main Street. Built on a high granite foundation, the building has a ridge roof and is of red brick with sandstone trim, in a simplified Italianate style. The gable end which faces the street has a bracketed cornice with return and contains an oculus in the pediment. The building is three bays wide at the facade elevation, punctuated by round-top windows, each headed by a sandstone hoodmold. These windows originally were divided longitudinally, within the frame, into two round-topped sashes with a circular opening above, but they have recently been altered to simple triple hung sashes.

Six granite steps lead up to the centered sandstone entrance portico, on the facade, supported by Ionic pillars with a balustrade above. The structure has a double belt course of brick between the first and second floors, with brick quoins on the facade, running from the foundation to the upper belt course. The original building, which contained a library and committee room on the first floor and a lecture hall above, was fifty feet wide by eighty two feet deep, and extended five bays to the rear. It was enlarged in 1867 and in 1868 by a forty six foot ell addition built at right angles to the rear of the building. It was in this addition that room was provided on the second floor for the elaborately paneled Sutton Reference Room.

The original spear-topped cast iron fence separates the property from the street. The entrance opening is designated by two heavy granite pillars topped by cast iron light fixtures.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

George Peabody, the Great Benefactor, Ruth H. Hill, Peabody, 1970.
 Draft Manuscript, George Peabody, John Wells, 1972.
 Peabody, Massachusetts, Peabody Chamber of Commerce, 1971.
 Clipping, History of Peabody, Salem Evening News, October 19, 1972.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"		
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"		
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"		
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:		
Elizabeth R. Amadon, State Survey Director		
ORGANIZATION	DATE	
Massachusetts Historical Commission	10/17/72	
STREET AND NUMBER:		
40 Beacon Street 727-8470		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Boston	Massachusetts	025

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☒

Name _____
 John F.X. Davoren
 Title _____
 Secretary Of the Commonwealth

 Chairman of the Massachusetts
 Historical Commission
 Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

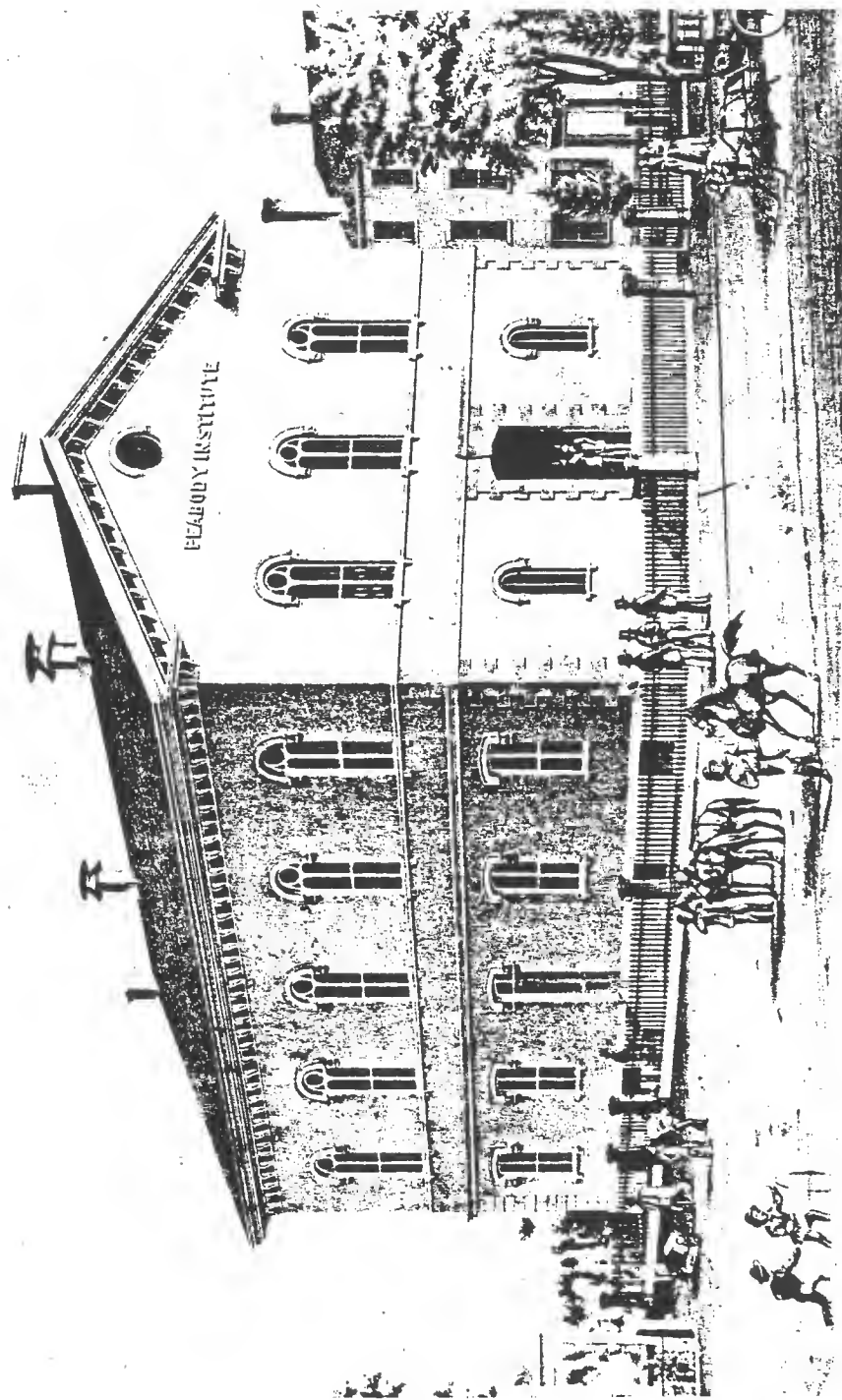
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PRESENT CONDITION

Since the Peabody Institute has had a recent addition and general renovation, its condition at present is excellent.

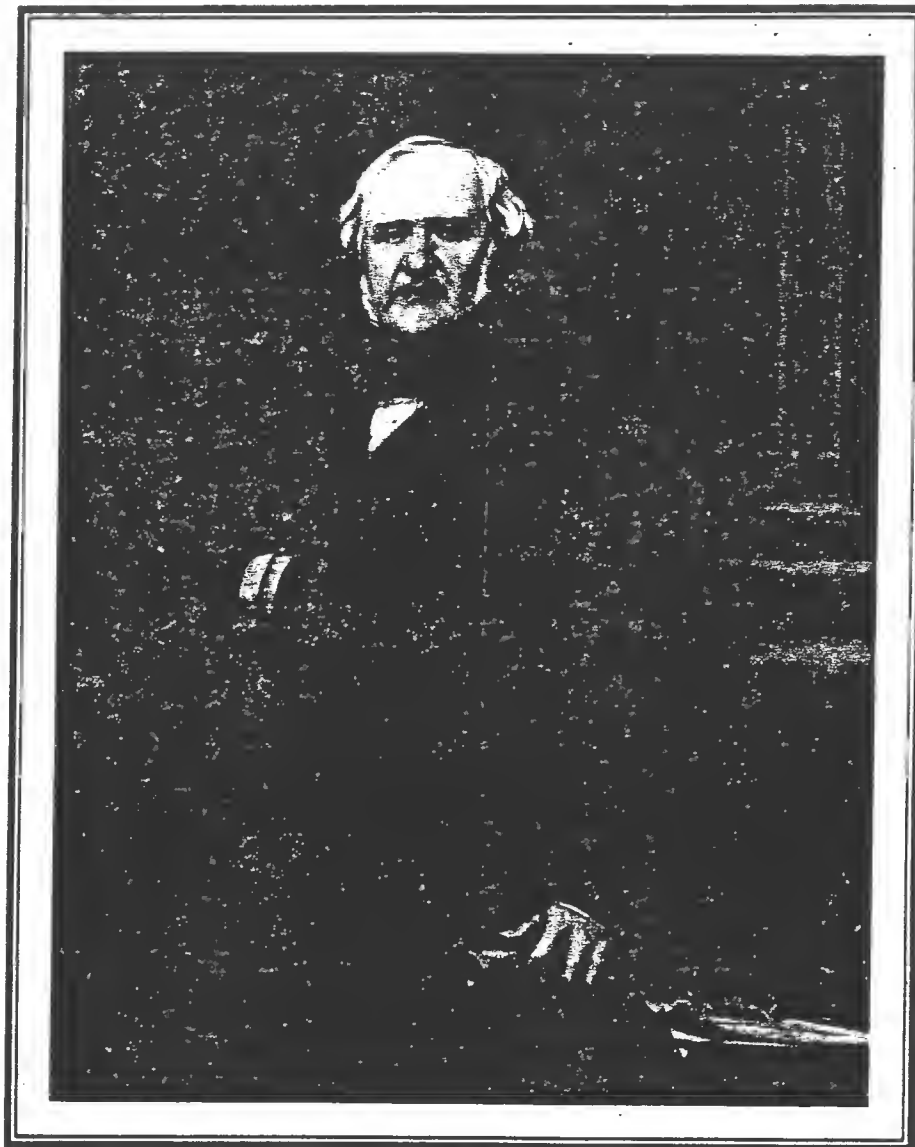
EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It is regrettable that the ornamental upper half of the original tower has been removed and the rich detailing of the windows destroyed. Nevertheless, the Institute remains the most impressive building in Downtown Peabody, set off, as it is, in its own grounds and landscaping. Additional landscaping would soften its present somewhat barren appearance.



1854 ENGRAVING OF THE PEABODY INSTITUTE LIBRARY

FIGURE 1

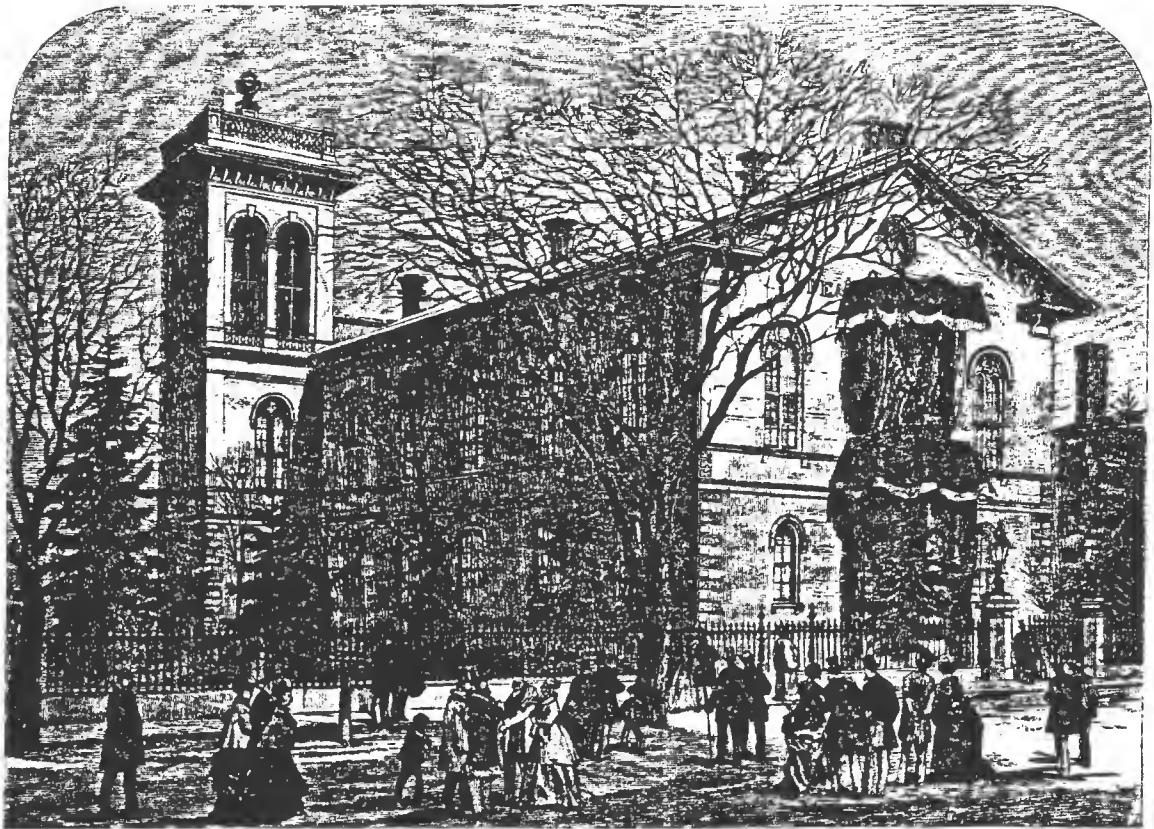


Peabody Institute Library

82 Main Street
Peabody, Massachusetts

GEORGE PEABODY

FIGURE 2



THE PEABODY INSTITUTE, PEABODY, MASSACHUSETTS.

ENGRAVING MADE IN 1869 SHOWING THE
PEABODY INSTITUTE LIBRARY AFTER GEORGE PEABODY'S DEATH

FIGURE 3



FIGURE 5

PEABODY INSTITUTE

From Bailey and Hazen's Birdseye
View of Peabody 1877

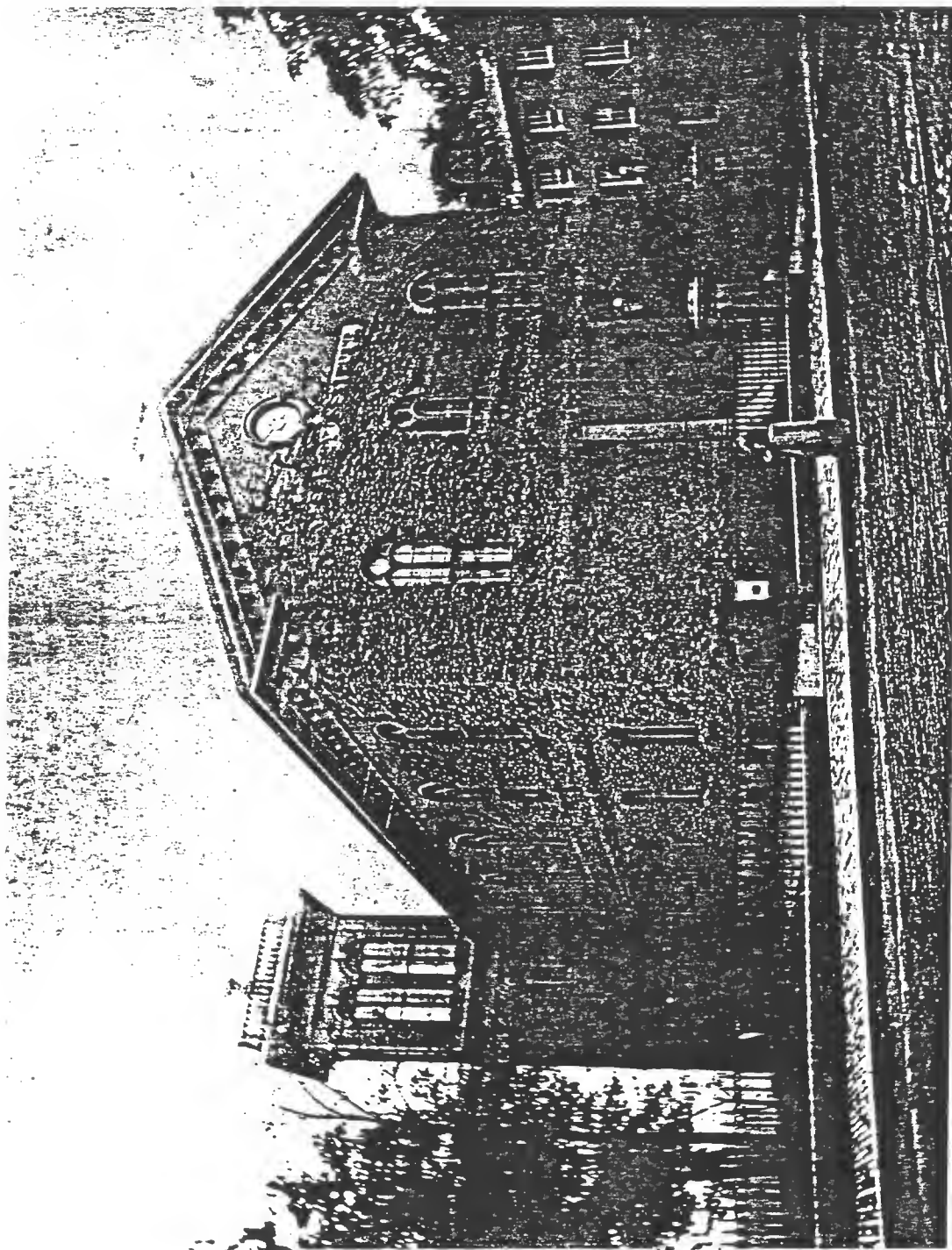
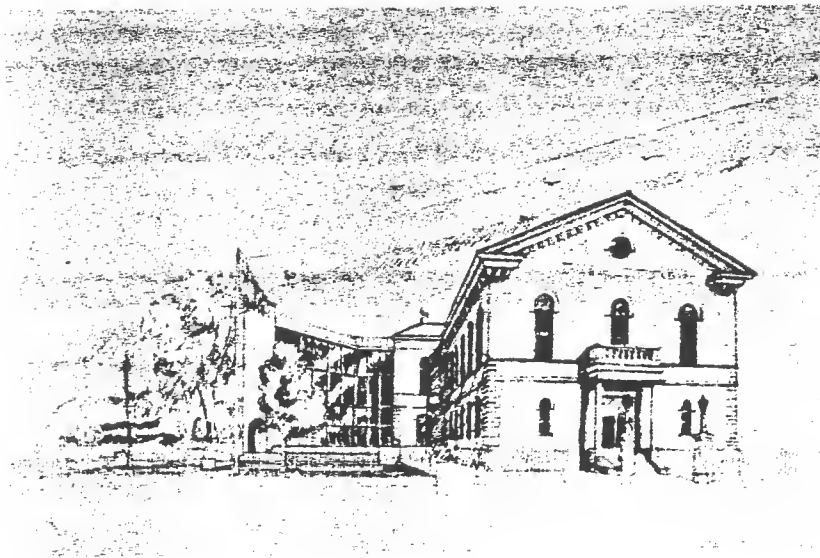


FIGURE 6

PEABODY INSTITUTE

Courtesy of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities

Note no longer extant Italianate tower



ARCHITECTS

INTERACT ARCHITECTS — INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Acton, Massachusetts

President, Richard O'Neil

Executive Vice President, Robert R. Campbell

Vice President and Project Architect, Cathleen Malmstrom

FIGURE 7

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 9 Wallis Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Peter Sakoulis

2) HISTORIC NAME Preston-Hammond House

3) PROPERTY TYPE residence

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE ca. 1840

SOURCE stylistic

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF residential UF residential

4) PRESENT USE: GF residential UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Greek Revival

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION granite

FACADE shingle covered clapboards

TRIM wood-doric pilasters and entablatures, freize board

VIEW FROM Southeast

PHOTO TAKEN August 1980



.. ADDRESS 9 Wallis Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC fair
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES needs paint
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF with exception of shingles -
intact fabric
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES institutional , commercial, industrial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Built ca. 1840, this two and one half story frame dwelling was the home of two Peabody war heroes. Levi Preston was a survivor of the Battle of Lexington and was among those present at the dedication of Peabody's Lexington Monument in 1836.¹ During the early 1850's this dwelling was owned by the heirs of Levi Preston.

Edward Hammond owned the house in the 1860's. He was one of three Peabody men confined to England's Dartmoor Prison during the war of 1812.⁴ This prison was the scene of the Dartmoor Massacre on April 6, 1815.⁵ This uprising "resulted in the killing of some Americans by a company of English soldgiers."⁶ Hammond, along with Benjamin D. Hill and John Price escaped harm and all were eventually released. They lived "to participate in the great flag raising ceremony which took place in Peabody Square on July 4, 1861."⁷ Hammond died in Lynn on June 20, 1870.⁸ The trustees of the Peabody Institute purchased Hammond's house for \$3,500.00 in 1872.⁹

For many years the Preston-Hammond House was the residence of the Peabody Institute's janitor.¹⁰ By the early 1920's it had returned to private ownership.¹¹ From the 1930's until the 1950's Daniel Carr, leatherworker, resided in this house.¹² Another resident of many years was Alfred Gibney, a telephone worker, who lived at 9 Wallis Street from the 1940's until the 1960's.¹³

Footnotes

1. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 231.
2. 1852 McIntyre map of Danvers.
3. 1868 Essex County Atlas.
4. Op cit., Wells.
5. Ibid., p. 229.
6. Ibid., p. 229.
7. Ibid., p. 229.
8. Peabody Press, Jan. 31, 1872, p. 2.
9. Ibid., p. 2.
10. Naumkeag Directory, 1884-5, 1918.
11. Peabody Directory, 1925-6.
12. Polk's Salem Directory, 1930, 1940, 1950.
13. Ibid., 1940, 1950, 1960.

PRESENT CONDITION

The Preston-Hammond House retains most of its original fabric. Its clapboards are presently covered by gray shingles. Particularly noteworthy are its Greek Revival surface treatments. In the center of the main five bay facade is a recessed central entrance which is enframed by wide doric pilasters and a heavy entablature. The door is surmounted by a rectangular transom and flanked by four pane sidelights. The 6/6 windows are simply enframed by thin strips of wood. A wide frieze board runs the length of the northern and southern facades. Tall chimneys appear near the eastern and western end wall gables of the ridge roof.

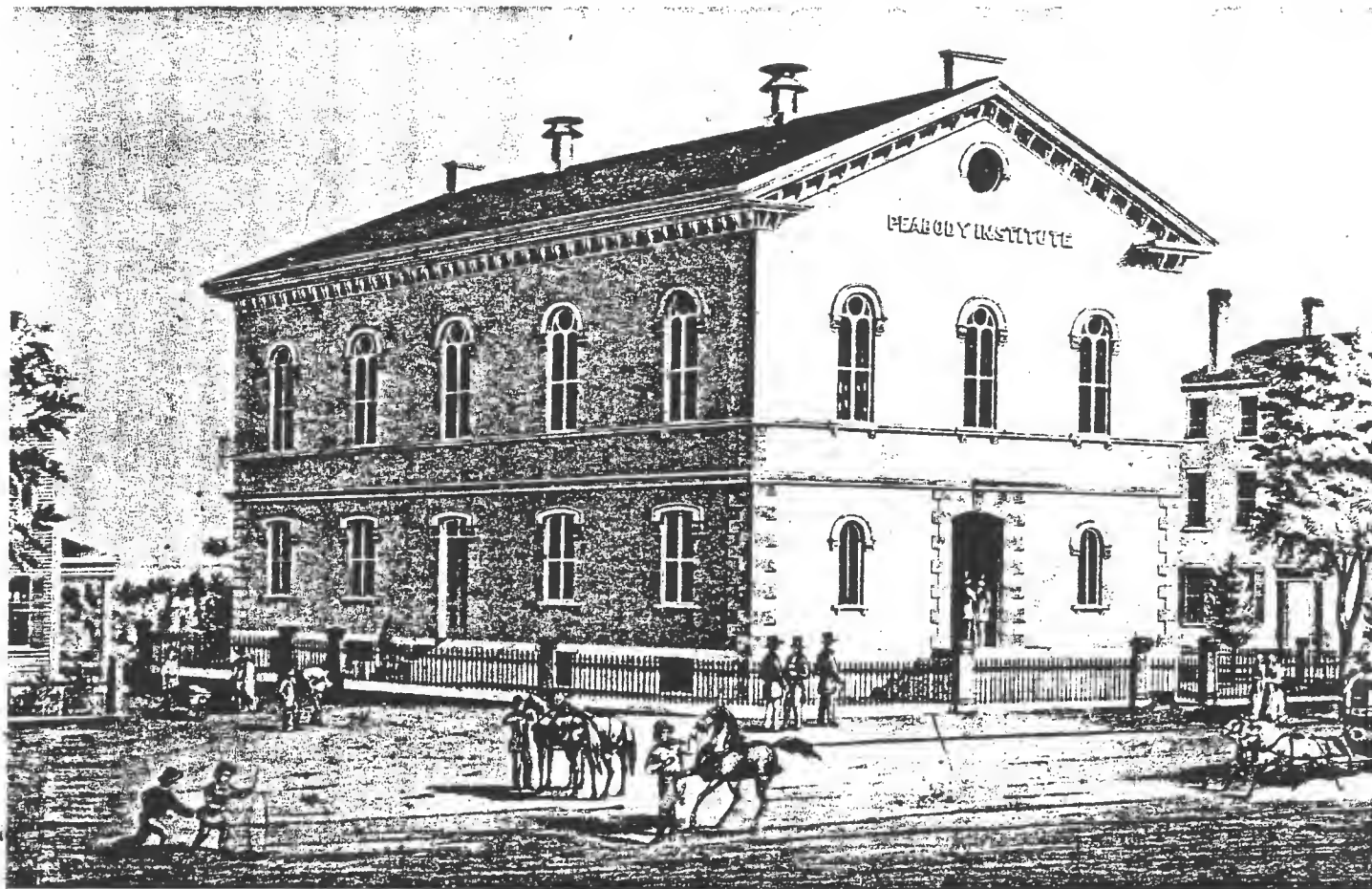
Noteworthy landscape features include the granite steps which lead to the main entrance and granite fence posts which flank these steps. A simple wrought iron fence (which may be original to this house) is situated in front of the house's eastern portion but is no longer extant to the west.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Preston-Hammond House is the centerpiece of Peabody's most picturesque historic setting. It is located opposite the intersection of Wallis and Main Streets. Its tree shaded site, set back from the commercial activity of Main Street, is flanked by the City's most architecturally significant brick Italianate structure, the Peabody Institute. To the west is the Sutton Block. This historic vista's impact could be heightened by restoration of the Preston-Hammond House's original appearance.

It might be advisable to reveal the House's clapboards which are presently hidden under gray shingles. The entrance enframingent, side porch column and frieze boards are in need of paint. An 1854 engraving of the Peabody Institute shows this dwelling's southeastern corner. Shown in this early view are window shutters which are no longer extant but would undoubtedly enhance the building. A portion of the original wrought iron fence and four granite posts are still intact. The fence's missing western portion might be reproduced and reinstalled. The Preston-Hammond House's front yard might benefit from the planting of shrubs and flower beds.





1854 ENGRAVING OF THE
PEABODY INSTITUTE LIBRARY



FIGURE 1

Note the southeastern corner of the
Preston-Hammond House

Preston-
Hammond
House

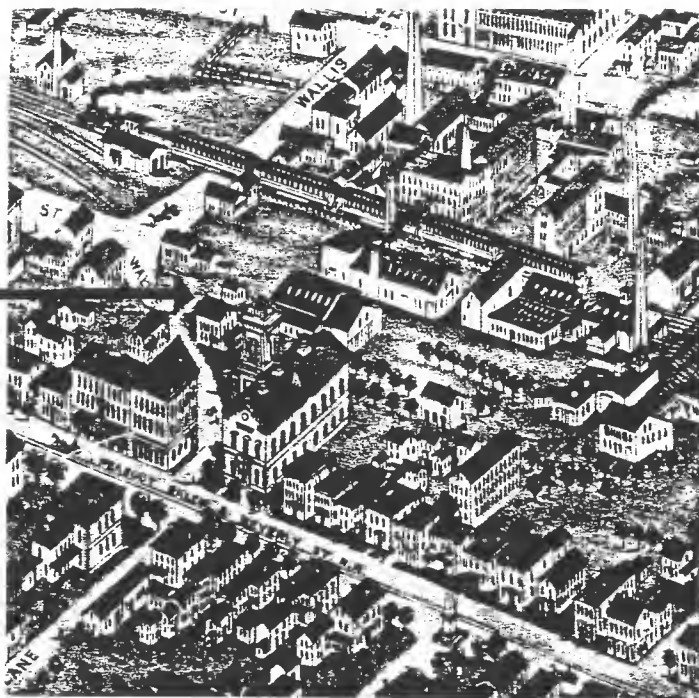


FIGURE 2

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 76-78 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Karahalis, John A. and Athas, Arthur

5 Rawding Road, Peabody

2) HISTORIC NAME Sutton Block

3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1859

SOURCE South Danvers Wizard, December 14, 1859

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF commercial/club

4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF commercial

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Italianate

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION granite

FACADE red brick laid in stretcher bond

TRIM brownstone sills, lintels, wood window enframements

VIEW FROM Southeast

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 76-78 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential, institutional
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

THE SUTTON BLOCK

Located at the corner of Main and Wallis Streets is a three story brick Italianate structure erected by Ebenezer Sutton (see report on 55 Main Street) in 1859.¹ Known as the Sutton Block, it was opened to the public on January 12, 1860.² The ground and second floors housed commercial concerns. The third floor contained Sutton Hall. For many years this hall was the headquarters of the Knights of Pythias.³

By 1897 this building was owned by Mayhew S. Clark and Edward Giddings.⁴ They were carpenters whose shop was located near the corner of Wallis and Walnut Streets.⁵ From the early 1900's until the late 1920's an M. O'Keefe, grocer, occupied the Main and Wallis Streets corner of the ground floor.⁶ The Polk Salem Directories list this building as vacant during the 1930's.

By 1940 the Jewish Folk School and a W.P.A. recreational center are listed at this address.⁷ In the 1950's Sutton Hall was known as the Jehovah's Witnesses Kingdom Hall.⁸ The Peabody Club was also a tenant at this time.⁹

Presently known as the Colonial Building, this structure houses Ann's Ceramic Studio and Gift Shop and Peabody Music Box. The second floor contains law offices. The third floor is vacant.

Footnotes

1. South Danvers Wizard, December 14, 1859, p. 1.
2. South Danvers Wizard, January 13, 1860, p.2.
3. Naumkeag Salem Directory 1900, 1910, 1918.
4. Essex County Atlas, 1897, plate 18.
5. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1884-85.
6. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1900, 1905, 1910, 1918, 1925-26, 1930.
7. Polk's Salem Directory, 1940.
8. Polk's Salem Directory, 1950.

PRESENT CONDITION

This Italianate building's south, east and northern facades are formally finished. The outline of the old Sawyer block's ridge roof can be seen on its western wall. Roughly trapezoidal in plan, it is constructed of red brick laid in stretcher bond.

With the exception of its ground floor Main Street facade this structure's original fabric is essentially intact. The ground floor storefront treatments may still be intact beneath its modern facings. A psuedo-Colonial sign advertising the Peabody Music Box hangs from the lower portion of the second floor. The entrance to the upper floor retains its granite piers. These piers display rockfaced rectangular sections with finely dressed borders.

Its wooden bracketed cornice shows signs of water damage. Originally it had a steeply pitched ridge roof. (see Bailey and Hazen's View of Peabody, 1877.) Early views of this structure's Main Street facade have yet to be discovered.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The significance of the Sutton Block is threefold. First and foremost it is the only Italianate commercial block in Peabody. Secondly it has important associations with the philanthropic Ebenezer Sutton Family. (The Suttons were one of the Peabody Institute's principal benefactors.) Finally, this structure, along with the Greek Revival dwellings on Wallis Street to the north and the Italianate Peabody Institute to the east constitute one of Peabody's most important and picturesque historical settings.

This important downtown Peabody landmark is in need of surface treatments which sympathize with its historic character. This building's rehabilitation process might begin with the removal of the storefronts' aquamarine metal panels. Cast iron columns may be still extant behind this modern covering. The storefront might also be enhanced by the introduction of narrow rectangular wooden or metal sign panels above the display windows. Simple gold block lettering against a black background might be used for this signage.

Some portions of the wide overhanging wooden cornice along with some of the saw cut brackets are in need of repair or replacement.



SUTTON BLOCK



MAIN STREET AND STRAND THEATRE, PEABODY, MASS.

Courtesy of John A. Wells

FIGURE 1

SEX INSTITUTE -
JUNCAN PHILLIPS LIBRARY

KING & CLEMENT,

PEABODY.

DEALERS IN

Country Produce, Groceries,

— AND —

Provisions

Hazall and St. Louis Flour

Direct from the Mills.

A SPECIALTY IN BUTTER,

Weekly from Vermont.

ALSO

TEAS, COFFEES.

And everything appertaining to a first-class grocery store.

Our stock of

PROVISIONS,

Is the best, and our prices the lowest. Call and examine
before buying elsewhere.

Button Block, 58 Main Street, Peabody.

From Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1884

FIGURE 2

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 68-72 Main Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER Warner, Frederick M., 4 Lehman Road, Marblehead, MA
- 2) HISTORIC NAME Site of Sawyer's Block
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE Commercial
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE ca. 1965, Sawyer's Block ca. 1855
- SOURCE stylistic considerations
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF N/A
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF N/A

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE 1960's modern
- 2) MATERIALS:
- FOUNDATION not visible
- FACADE cinder blocks, metal
- TRIM metal

VIEW FROM South PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 68-72 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF intact original fabric
UF N/A
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING distracts from character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Sawyer's Block was located on the northern side of Main Street, adjacent to the Sutton Block, and was destroyed by a fire circa 1960's. A one story cinder block structure is presently located on this site.

The Sawyer's Block appears on the 1877 Bailey and Hazen view of Peabody. L-shaped in plan, it was constructed of brick and had a cupola in the center of its roof. Stylistically Italianate, it dates to ca. 1855-60. Sawyer's Block may have been built simultaneously with the Italianate Sutton Block (1859) to the east. Both structures were owned by Mrs. Eliza Sutton in 1868.¹ By 1873 W.F. Sawyer owned the block that would thenceforth be known as Sawyer's Block.² W.F. Sawyer's Dry Goods store was located on the ground floor from 1873 until the mid-1930's.³ The upper floors contained furnished rooms.⁴ During the 1940's and 1950's Charlie Chin's laundry and City Cleaners and Dryers were tenants of this building.⁵ It housed the Peabody Supply Company, Local Finance Company, and M. Garlis Beauticians in 1960.⁶

The present one story cinder block structure probably dates to the mid-1960's. It presently houses a weight lifting center, credit union and beautician's.

Footnotes

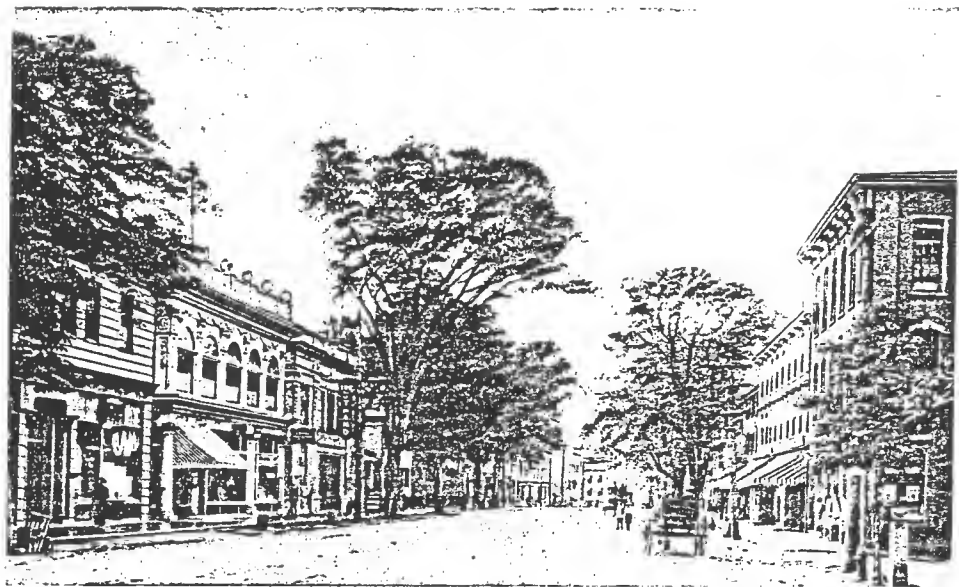
1. 1868 Essex County Atlas.
2. 1872 Essex County Atlas.
3. Peabody Press, May 4, 1905. p.2. (32nd Anniversary of F.W. Sawyer's Dry Goods).
4. 1910, 1918, 1930, 1940, 1950 Naumkeag and Polk's Salem Directories.
5. Polk's Salem Directory, 1940, 1950.
6. Ibid., 1960.

PRESENT CONDITION

Situated on the old Sawyer's Block lot is a modern one story cinder block structure containing three stores. The outline of Sawyer's Block is still visible on the western wall of the Sutton Block. (See photograph)

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

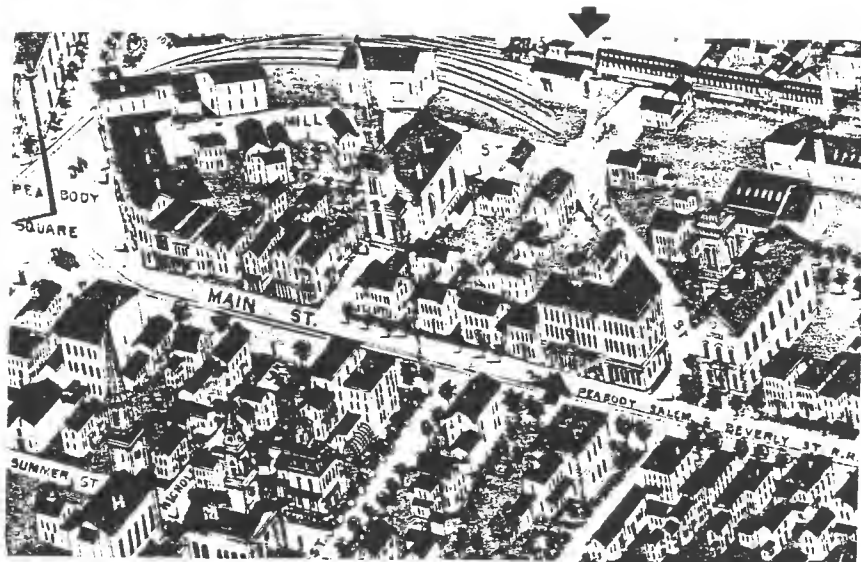
It is commendable that commercial concerns are operating from the site of the burned Sawyer's Block. It would better serve the historic character of this streetscape, however, if a three or four story structure were built on this site. Presently the continuity of the buildings which line the north side of Main Street is broken by the one story structure which occupies this lot.



SAWYER'S BLOCK ca. 1915
Postcard courtesy of John A. Wells

FIGURE 1

SAWYER'S BLOCK



from Birds-eye view Map of Peabody
1877 - Bailey & Hazen

FIGURE 2

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 60-66 Main Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER Bell Realty Co. Inc.
76 Bardlee Avenue, Swampscott, Massachusetts
- 2) HISTORIC NAME John Upton House/Osborne Block
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial/residential
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE ca. 1797, raised onto brick ground floor ca. 1897
 SOURCE Essex County Registry of Deeds, Book 160, lef 211
and Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1897
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF residential UF residential
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE late 18th century frame vernacular dwelling on
late 19th century brick ground floor
- 2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION not visible

FACADE brick, wood (asbestos shingles)

TRIM wooden window enframements

VIEW FROM South PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 60-66 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF intact with evolutionary changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The John Upton House is the oldest structure on Main Street west of Washington Street. Built ca. 1796-1797 it is situated on top of a ca. 1897 brick commercial ground floor.

On April 7, 1796¹ John Upton of Danvers, cordwainer, granted to John Upton Jr. the land presently occupied by 60-66 Main Street. The southern boundary of this lot is described as "the road from Salem to Andover."² (Main Street). Its northern boundary was "the way leading to Wallis and Southwick's gristmill."³ John Upton Sr. retained the right to use "the barn now on the premises."⁴ No mention is made of a dwelling house on this lot in the 1796 deed. By 1811 reference is made to "buildings" being situated on this lot.⁵ Presumably John Upton Jr. Built this simple frame vernacular dwelling soon after he acquired this land from his father. Upton family members lived in this house until 1841⁶ when Stephen Upton sold this property to Wingate Merrill (occupation unknown).

By 1868⁷ a J. Taylor is listed as this property's owner. In the 1880's S. Osborne, clerk, was the owner of the old Upton homestead. Osborne raised this residence on to a brick commercial ground floor ca. 1897. In that year the building on this site was first called the Osborne Block.⁹ Presumably its rise to block status indicates the presence of non-residential tenants.

In 1910¹⁰ B.B. Merrill shoe repairer and coal agent lived and worked in this building. From 1915 until the 1960's¹¹ the Osborne Block housed Lawrence Brothers Drug Store. Other leasees included A.F. Watkins ice cream, H. Solomon Hair Dresser, and the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Co.¹² Since the late 1960's¹³ the Home Appliance Company and Community Taxi have rented rooms in this building.

Footnotes

1. Essex County Registry of Deeds; Book 160, leaf 211.
2. Ibid., leaf 211.
3. Ibid., leaf 211.
4. Ibid., leaf 211.
5. Essex County Registry of Deeds; Book 193, leaf 268.
6. Essex County Registry of Deeds; Book 341, leaf 214.
7. Essex County Atlas, 1868.
8. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1884, 1890.
9. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1896, 1897, 1898.
10. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1910.
11. Salem Directories, 1915, 1925-6, 1940, 1950, 1960.
12. Ibid., 1915, 1925-6, 1940, 1950, 1960.
13. Polk's Salem Directory, 1968, 1970, 1975.

PRESENT CONDITION

This building's ground floor storefronts feature glass display windows which are enframed by brickwork and thin metal strips. Signs are located on a thin metal panel above the storefronts. Projecting from the eastern portion of the second floor is a square metal sign which reads "Community Taxi".

The frame two and one half story dwelling above the ground floor is covered with maroon asbestos shingles. The fenestration of the Main Street facade has been altered. The main entrance was located in the center of the five bay Main Street facade. Currently a window which is smaller than the other windows of the main block is in this location.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The John Upton House is one of two eighteenth century dwellings still extant on Main Street, Peabody. It is the eastern-most member of a trio of pre-Civil War structures which were raised on to brick commercial ground floors in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

The appearance of the storefronts might be enhanced by reducing the size of the glass windows, adding multi-pane transoms and adopting signage of a uniform size and lettering. A low balustrade might be added to the storefront addition to create a more finished appearance.

The frame structure above the ground floor might be enhanced by the removal of the maroon asbestos shingles. The addition of window boxes and shutters might also be advisable. The original main entrance might also be reproduced to replace the present small window which appears in the center of the Main Street facade. This door could service an outdoor terrace on the roof of the ground floor commercial structure.

JOHN UPTON
HOUSE



FIGURE 1

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 52 Main Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER Woods, Agnes R., Trustee
64 Gardener Street, Peabody
- 2) HISTORIC NAME General Grenville M. Dodge House
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial/residential
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE ca. 1835
SOURCE stylistic considerations
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF residential
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Federal/Greek Revival
- 2) MATERIALS:
- FOUNDATION not visible
- FACADE brick
- TRIM brownstone sills and lintels

VIEW FROM South PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 52 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF intact with evolutionary changes
UF intact with evolutionary changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

With the exception of George Peabody, the most illustrious nineteenth century Peabody citizen was General Grenville M. Dodge. Dodge was "...a Civil War hero who rose to the rank of Major General, Congressman from Iowa, financier, railroad builder, and a national hero to the citizens of Peabody and Danvers."¹ During the late 1840's and early 1850's² General Dodge's family lived in the brick dwelling situated between the Upton Houses on the northern side of Main Street.

This site was occupied by a frame dwelling during the early nineteenth century.³ The frame structure was "moved back and a more pretentious edifice erected in its stead."⁴ This "pretentious edifice" was constructed circa 1835. Its masonry construction and brownstone trim link it with the stylistically Federal Dennison Wallis House (1810) and the Bushby Store (1830). Its end wall gables' considerable width and return eaves is characteristic of Greek Revival dwellings.

General Grenville M. Dodge was born in Danvers on April 12, 1831.⁵ His family arrived in Peabody in 1837, residing in the upper floors of Dr. Shed's building (no longer extant, 126 Main Street).⁶ The General's father, Sylvanus, was Peabody's second postmaster (1845-1855).⁷ The Dodge's lived in this brick structure from 1845 until the early 1850's.⁸ General Dodge attended Norwich University (1848-1851).⁹ After graduation Dodge moved to the West, sending for his family in 1855.¹⁰

Upon his return to Peabody on October 24, 1864 General Dodge was greeted with a parade and reception befitting a Civil War hero.¹¹ After the Civil War General Dodge became involved in Iowa politics, played a key role in the building of the Union Pacific Rail Road and amassed a fortune estimated at 16 million dollars.¹² Throughout his career in the West he "took an interest in the historical societies of Peabody and Danvers".¹³

Occupations have not as yet been determined for J.A. Kelley¹⁴ and D.H. Rogers,¹⁵ the Dodge House's late nineteenth century owners. Dr. J.J. Hickey, long associated with this building and its neighbor to the west, is first listed at this address in 1908.¹⁶

Dr. Hickey apparently owned both the Dodge House and the E.S. Upton House. In a typical Peabody response to twentieth century commercialization these structures were raised circa 1923 to accomodate ground

floor stores. The old John Upton House to the east had been raised on to a commercial ground floor and dubbed the "Osborne Block" in the late 1890's.¹⁷ The Dodge and S.S. Upton Houses were linked by a two story brick addition and given similar facade treatments. Henceforth these raised structures became known as "The Hickey Building". Dr. Hickey's office was located in the old Dodge House until the 1940's.¹⁸ Another tenant of long standing was the Salem Gas Light Company (1920's until the 1940's).¹⁹ The Peabody Chamber of Commerce deemed the "Hickey Building suitable for its headquarters during the 1920's.²⁰ During the 1940's Marie Hickey, "dramatics teacher", taught in this building.²¹

In the 1950's and 1960's a hat shop, drygoods store, beauty shop, florist and lawyers' offices were located in the old Dodge Homestead.²² Since the early 1970's Gloria Food Stores, the Peabody Times and St. Paul's Thrift Shop have been tenants of this building.

Footnotes

1. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 310.
2. Ibid., p. 310.
3. From a collection of clippings from The Comet, 1869, in the Essex Institute, Peabody, Massachusetts.
4. Ibid.
5. Op. cit., Wells, p. 310.
6. Ibid., p. 310.
7. Ibid., p. 277.
8. Ibid., p. 310 - (S. Dodge appears on this property on McIntyre Map of 1852.)
9. Ibid. p. 310.
10. Ibid., p. 310.
11. Ibid., p. 311.
12. Ibid., p. 311.
13. Ibid., p. 311.
14. Essex County Atlas, 1868.
15. Essex County Atlas, 1897.
16. 1908 Naumkeag Salem Directory
17. 1897 Naumkeag Salem Directory
18. 1925/26 Peabody Directory; 1930, 1940 Polk's Salem Directory.
19. 1930, 1940 Polk's Salem Directory.
20. 1925/26 Peabody Directory.
21. 1940 Polk's Salem Directory.
22. 1950, 1960 Polk's Salem Directory.

PRESENT CONDITION

This building's 1920's storefront treatments appear to be mostly intact. The store's transoms are covered by signs. A small square blue enameled metal sign which reads "Gloria Food Stores" projects from the western portion of the Main Street facade's second floor. Presumably the narrow metal bay window in the center of the building's Main Street facade dates to the early 1920's. Two story additions flank the structure's eastern and western walls.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The old Dodge House is the central member of a trio of important pre-Civil War structures which were raised on to brick pedestals in the early 1920's. Its historic significance is twofold. First, as the boyhood home of General Grenvill M. Dodge, Civil War hero and railroad builder. Secondly it exemplifies a response to the early twentieth century commercialization of Peabody's formerly residential Main Street. House raising rather than demolition was a common practice in late nineteenth and early twentieth century Peabody.

Ideally the Dodge House and its neighbors should be returned to ground level. Since this is probably not feasible a return to its 1920's appearance might be advisable.

The store's transoms should be uncovered or re-installed, and shutters added to the house windows. The Peabody Times sign might serve as an example of signage of an appropriate scale and lettering type. The square metal Gloria Food Stores sign might be removed from the second floor facade. This building's brickwork and roofing materials appear to be in good condition.

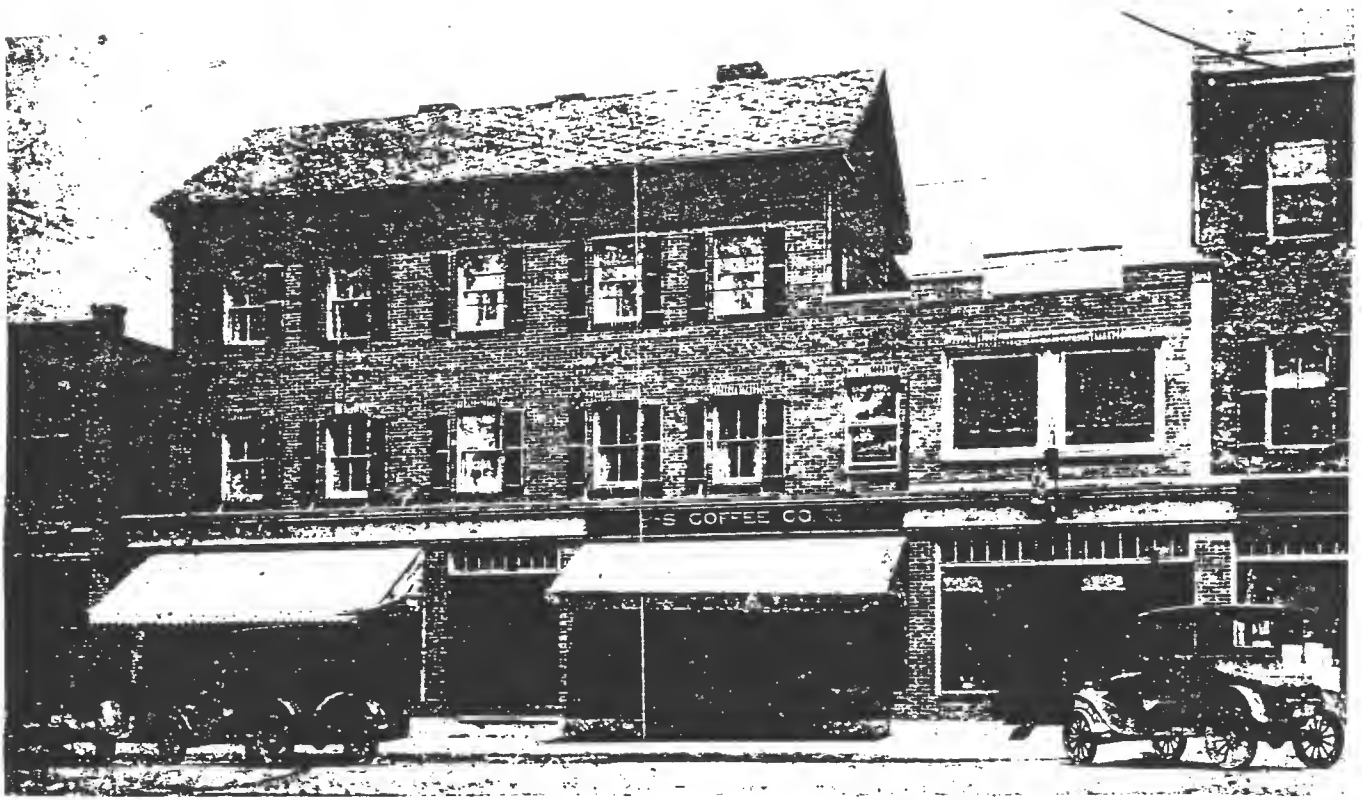


FIGURE 1

The southwest corner of
the Dodge House, later
part of the Hickey Building

photograph courtesy of the Essex Institute,
Salem, Massachusetts

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 40 Main Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER Woods, Agnes R., Trustee
64 Gardener Street, Peabody, Massachusetts
- 2) HISTORIC NAME E.S. Upton House
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE residential
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE ca. 1850
SOURCE stylistic evidence
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF residential UF residential
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF residential

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Italianate, remodeled circa 1923.
- 2) MATERIALS:
FOUNDATION concrete
FACADE clapboards covered with brick and shingles
TRIM wood

VIEW FROM Southeast PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 40 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF intact with minor alterations
UF intact with evolutionary changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

This mid-nineteenth century frame dwelling was raised on to a brick pedestal circa 1923. Presumably the brickwork which covers the clapboards of the Upton House's Main Street facade dates to the time of its raising. The endwall gables' dentils and Italianate window enframements suggest a construction date of ca. 1850.

E.S. Upton was the owner of this property in 1868.¹ He was born in Peabody, then part of Danvers, in 1790.² His trade is not mentioned in his obituary. He was remembered as a man "of an ardent, active temperment and his enthusiasm knew no obstacles."³ Upton was "one of the first to take up the cause of temperance and also the cause of anti-slavery. He was a founder of the Universalist Society in Peabody."⁴

From the 1880's until 1915 F.C. Merrill, a bookkeeper at the Warren National Bank owned this property.⁵ By 1918 Robinson's Variety Store is listed as a tenant in this dwelling.⁶

In the early 1920's the E.S. Upton House and the Sylvanus Dodge House to the east were raised on to brick commercial ground floors. These buildings were linked by a two story brick commercial addition situated between the Upton House's eastern wall and the Dodge House's western wall. In the center of this addition's parapet is a cement plaque reading "Hickey Building". Apparently both structures became known as a single commercial block - The Hickey Building. J.J. Hickey, physician, occupied rooms in the Dodge House portion of the Hickey Building.⁷ The directories first refer to these properties as the Hickey Building in 1925. These storefronts and upper floors were given similar surface treatments, eg. 2/2 sash in the houses and standard display windows at street level. The clapboards of the Upton House's Main Street facade were covered in brick to match the brick Dodge House to the east. (see figure 1)

In 1925 the Upton House portion of the Hickey Building housed United Shoe Stores Co., Hermann's Department Store and Hermann's Boot Shop.⁸ Its upper floors contained Mrs. C.S. Blairdell's lodging house.⁹ During the 1930's and 1940's a jewelry shop, candy store, coffee company, grocery store and a clothing store were this structure's commercial tenants.¹⁰

Since the 1950's Patrick J. Woods Insurance and Real Estate Company, a former tenant of the Allen Block, has been located at this address.¹

Footnotes

1. Essex County Atlas, 1868.
2. South Danvers Wizard, July 11, 1868, p.2.
3. Ibid., p. 2.
4. Ibid., p. 2.
5. Essex County Atlas, 1884; Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1915.
6. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1918.
7. Peabody Directory, 1925-26; Polk's Salem Directory, 1930, 1940.
8. Peabody Directory, 1925-26.
9. Peabody Directory, 1925-26.
10. Polk's Salem Directory, 1930, 1940.
11. Polk's Salem Directory, 1950, 1960, 1970.

PRESENT CONDITION

The ground floor is dominated by a wide metal sign which spans the length of the building. It reads "Insurance - P.J. Woods - Real Estate".

The clapboards of the Main Street facade's upper floors were covered by bricks during a 1970's remodeling. The narrow end wall gables are covered with brown asbestos shingles. A dormer window has been added to the front roof slope. It is similar in appearance to the Dodge House dormer.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The E.S. Upton House and the two raised structures to the east dramatically illustrate Peabody residents' response to commercial growth in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. While some communities demolished residences to make way for commercial blocks, old Peabody homesteads remained intact. New additions were constructed either in front of or beneath earlier structures. The E.S. Upton House and the Dodge House to the east are an unusual example of two raised structures linked by an addition and similar facade treatments to create a single commercial/residential entity.

Both structures' storefronts might be returned to their 1920's appearance. The upper floors might benefit from the re-installation of shutters and the addition of flower boxes.



FIGURE 1

The E.S. Upton House,
later the western portion of the Hickey Block.

Photo taken ca. 1925

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 34 Main Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER State Street Bank and Trust and Lynch, Joseph M.,
225 Franklin Street, Boston, Massachusetts
- 2) HISTORIC NAME Louis Karelitz Building
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1923
SOURCE date on building in 1920's Essex Institute photo.
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF commercial
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF commercial

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE 1920's commercial
- 2) MATERIALS:
FOUNDATION cement
FACADE red brick laid in stretcher bond
TRIM cement

VIEW FROM South

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 34 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF intact with minor changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING compatible with historic character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

During the late nineteenth century this property appears on Essex County Atlases labeled Little Estate (1872) and Miss A.H. Warden (1897).

By 1910 W.P. Ekwel's Electric Shop is listed at this address along with a Dr. J.E. Webster.¹ In 1918 the Peabody Electric Shop is located in the dwelling on this lot.²

The present structure was built in 1923 and was known as the Karelitz Building.³ Louis Karelitz was one of the first Jewish settlers in Peabody. Originally from Russia, he arrived in Peabody in 1896.⁴ This building housed Karelitz's Furniture Store until 1947.⁵ During the 1940's and 1950's Theodore Sargent, optomotrist, occupied an office on the second floor.⁶

Remis Furniture has occupied this structure since 1960.⁷

Footnotes

1. 1910 Naumkeag Salem Directory.
2. 1918 Naumkeag Salem Directory.
3. Photograph, Essex County Institute - date and name appear on parapet.
4. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 490.
5. Polk's Salem Directory, 1946, 1947, 1948.
6. Ibid., 1940, 1950, 1960.
7. Ibid., 1960.

PRESENT CONDITION

The central portion of this structure above the central entrance is covered by a red and orange striped awning. The central entrance is flanked by long rectangular glass windows divided into rectangular sections by thin aluminum strips. Above these windows, on either side of the awning, are rectangular metal signs which proclaim "Remis Furniture".

The second floor's fabric is essentially intact. A pair of arched windows are hidden behind the awning. The central portion of the parapet has been altered. Originally a date of 1923 and "Louis Karelitz Building" appeared on plaques in the central section of the parapet. (see Figure 1)

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This 1920's commercial block might benefit from a return to emphasizing its flat surfaces and simple lines. Presently the central portion of the main facade is hidden beneath a gold and yellow canopy. This canopy covers the cement arches of the central entrance and second floor windows. It might be advisable to reinstate the brick piers which once appeared between the ground floor storefront windows.

The wide sign panels above the store windows hide a pair of cement string courses. Narrower sign bands displaying uniform lettering might be placed below the string courses.

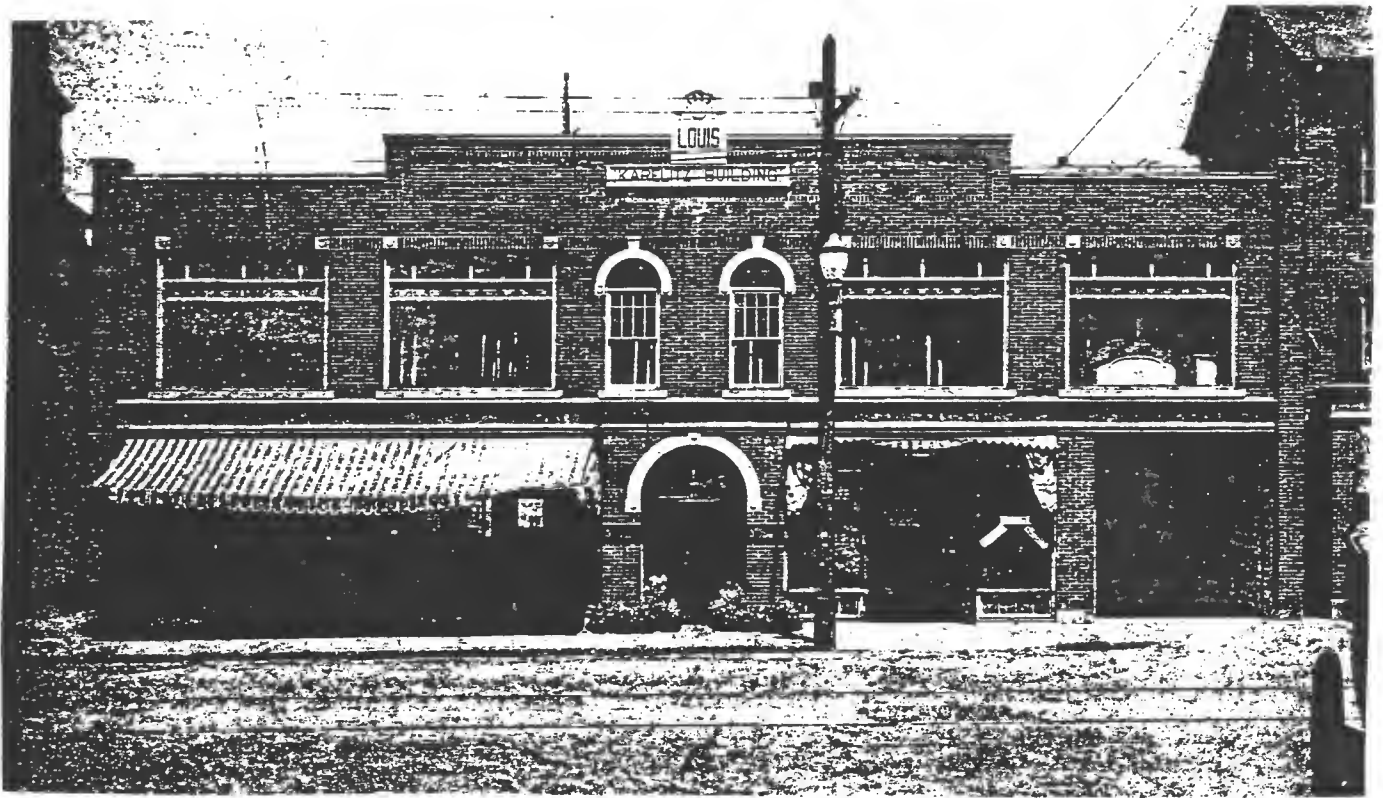


FIGURE 1
The Karelitz Block

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 32 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Peabody Cooperative Bank

2) HISTORIC NAME Peabody Cooperative Bank

3) PROPERTY TYPE bank

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1952

SOURCE The Peabody Story, John A. Wells, p. 282.

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF bank UF offices

4) PRESENT USE: GF bank UF offices

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE late Colonial Revival

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION cement

FACADE brick

TRIM concrete, wood

VIEW FROM South

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 32 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF intact original fabric
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING compatible with character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

This modern Colonial Revival structure has housed the Peabody Cooperative Bank since its construction in 1952.¹ The fourth bank to be established in Peabody, the Peabody Cooperative Bank was formerly located in the Thomas Block (Sun Tavern building) in Peabody Square.²

Prior to this bank's construction a narrow rectangular two story frame house occupied this corner lot (Walker and Main Streets).³ This dwelling was owned by a W.F. Walker, clerk, in the late nineteenth century.⁴ During the first decade of the twentieth century H.S. Pyne of "Pyne and Smith Company, Stoves, Furnaces, etc." resided at this address.⁵ From 1910 until 1918 this was the residence of a Dr. George Ewing.⁶ His citations in the directories vary between physician or "occultist".

Between 1925 and 1952⁷ the residents of the old Walker House included S.D. Lord, insurance agent (1925), Theodore R. Sargent, optometrist (1930's), William H. Pearce, watch repair (1940), and Leon Better Men's Furnishings (1950).

Footnotes

1. Polk's Salem Directory, 1951, 1952, 1953.
2. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 283.
3. View of Peabody, Bailey and Hazen, 1877.
4. Essex County Atlas, 1897.
5. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1905, 1908.
6. Ibid., 1910 - 1918.
7. Peabody Directory, 1925-26
Polk's Salem Directory, 1930 - 1950.

PRESENT CONDITION

see photograph

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This building appears to be in excellent condition. It might be improved with shrubbery and flower planting along its front and side walls.

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 30 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Pearl, Samuel and Hannah; Gordon, David J.

30 Brettonwood Lane

2) HISTORIC NAME unknown

3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial/offices

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE ca. 1935

SOURCE 1935, 1936 Polk's Salem Directories

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF offices

4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF offices.

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Colonial Revival

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION Not visible

FACADE red stretcher bond brickwork

TRIM metal window enframements & cornice; cement lintels

VIEW FROM South

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 30 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

IN 1872 this property is labeled Clark and Giddings.¹ During the 1880's Giddings and Clark, carpenters, resided on Main Street while their shop was located at the corner of Wallis and Walnut Streets.² In 1897 only Giddings' name is associated with this lot.³

By 1910 the ground floor of the old Clark and Giddings House was occupied by commercial tenants.⁴ James Howley, tailor, and a kitchen utensil shop were located in this Greek Revival dwelling. (see Fig. 1)

The present structure was built ca. 1935.⁶ This building is similar to the Goldstein Building to the west in terms of uses and facade treatments. Like the 1920's Goldstein building it houses shops on the ground floor and professional offices on the second floor. No mention is made of lawyers' or doctors' offices at this address until 1936.⁷

During the 1930's and 40's Kaplan's Shoe Store occupied the ground floor.⁸ Recent tenants have included lawyers' offices and a Real Estate agency.⁹

Footnotes

1. 1872 Essex County Atlas.
2. 1885-86, 1887-88 Naumkeag Salem Directory.
3. 1897 Essex County Atlas, plate 18.
4. 1910 Naumkeag Salem Directory.
5. Ibid., 1910.
6. Polk's Salem Directory, 1935, 1936.
7. Ibid., 1935, 1936.
8. Ibid., 1936 1940, 1945.
9. Ibid., 1960, 1970.

PRESENT CONDITION

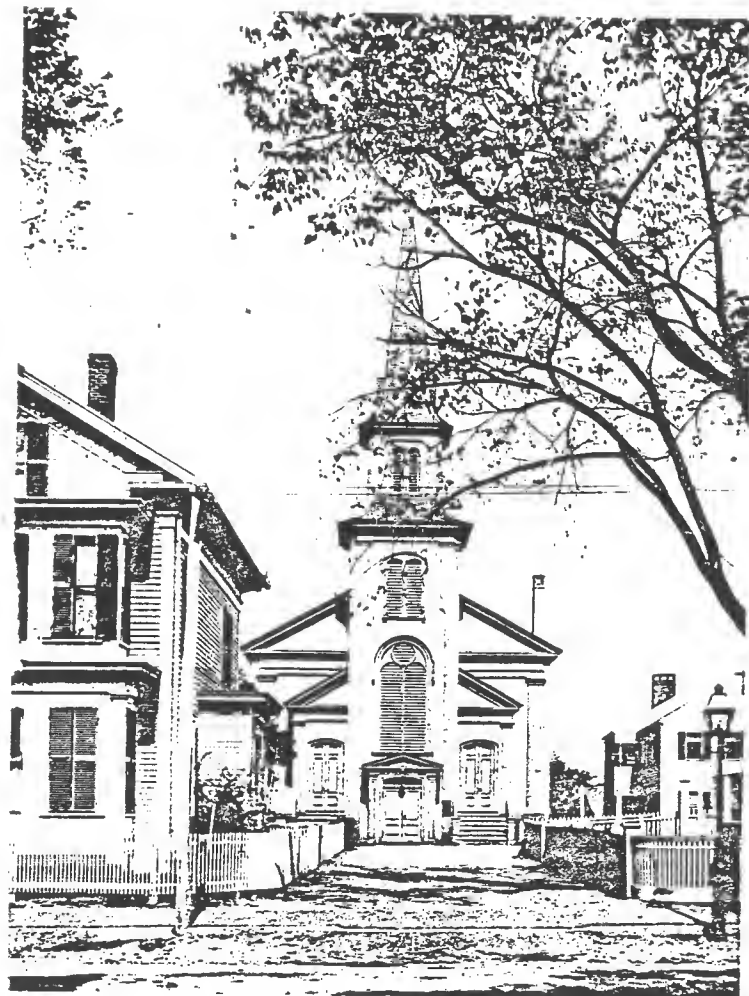
30 Main Street's ground floor has been completely reworked in modern red brick and metal materials. The original display windows have been reduced to narrow horizontal openings surrounded by brick work which is unsympathetic with the original second floor fabric. A metal canopy is suspended from a wall covered with aquamarine metal panels.

The second floor's original fabric is intact. The window treatments and classicized modillion cornice are similar to those of the Goldstein Block (24 Main Street) to the west.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

30 Main Street, and its nearly identical neighbor to the west (24 Main Street) were constructed during the last phase of Peabody's 1900-1930 commercial building boom. These buildings echo the expanse of the second O'Shea Building, located directly across Main Street.

While its present modern ground floor displays up-to-date brick and metal treatments, these materials are not in keeping with the 1920's character of this structure. A rehabilitation program might begin with the removal of the ground floor's modern brick infill and narrow rectangular windows. Its Main Street facade could be greatly enhanced by the removal of the metal marquee and enameled panels which appear above the ground floor. The upper floor's fabric is essentially intact - including wedge-shaped cement Colonial Revival lintels and a classicized cornice.



UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, MAIN STREET. 1832-1950

Universalist Church,
Main Street
1832 - 1950

FIGURE 1

Walker Street in 1980 (left) and in the late nineteenth century. To the left of the church is the Clark-Giddings House, later the site of 30 Main Street.

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 24 Main Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER Singerman, Rebecca, trustee; Pearl, Samuel, trustee;
24 Main Street, Peabody.
- 2) HISTORIC NAME Goldstein Block
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial/offices
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE ca. 1924
SOURCE 1918 Naumkeag Salem Directory, Peabody City Directory
1925-26
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF offices
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF offices

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Colonial Revival
- 2) MATERIALS:
FOUNDATION not visible
FACADE red stretcher bond brick
TRIM metal window enframements, metal cornice
VIEW FROM Southwest PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 24 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to historic character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

In 1868 a two and one half story frame house was located on the western portion of this lot.¹ The eastern and northern portions of this property were undeveloped. Its owner was an L. Holman, occupation unknown. A three and one half story structure appears on the eastern portion of this lot in 1877.² By 1897 the old Holman residence was owned by Amos Osborne.³ In the 1873 Danvers Directory he is listed as retired and living across Main Street at number thirty-one.

During the first decade of the twentieth century the commercial activities which were formerly confined to Peabody Square spread eastward along Main Street. Dwellings were raised on to commercial brick "pedestals" or were hidden behind one to three story commercial/apartment additions. The nineteenth century houses on 24 Main Street's lot dissappeared by the early 1920's. For a time these structures housed the Enterprise Shoe Store, J.H. Hanson Jewelers, and H. S. Isenberg's Variety Store, (1910-1918).⁴

The present two story brick Colonial Revival commercial block was built in the early 1920's.⁵ It became known as the Goldstein Block.⁶ This structure's massing, materials and fenestration distribution is similar to that of the Louis Karelitz Block (1923) at 34 Main Street. A structure with identical surface treatments abutting its eastern wall, was built in the late 1920's.⁷ (30 Main Street)

The Goldstein Block housed dry goods stores belonging to Leon Butters and F. Gordon and Son in 1925.⁸ From the late 1920's until the 1960's an F.W. Woolworth and Company's 5 and 10 ¢ store occupied the western portion of this building.⁹ F. W. Woolworth's had been previously located in the Allen Block in Peabody Square.¹⁰

Since the 1920's doctors and lawyers have occupied offices on the second floor.¹¹ Allyn's Hardware Store has been a tenant of the ground floor since 1960.¹² This structure is presently called the Professional Building.

Footnotes

1. 1868 Essex County Atlas.
2. 1877 Bailey and Hazen View of Peabody.
3. 1897 Essex County Atlas.
4. Naumkeag Directories, 1910-1918.
5. Naumkeag Directory, 1918.
Peabody Directory, 1925-26.
6. Peabody Directory, 1925-26.
7. Polk's Salem Directory, 1929-30.
8. Peabody Directory, 1925-26.
9. Peabody Directory, 1925-26.
Polk's Salem Directory, 1930-60.
10. Naumkeag Directory, 1915.
11. Peabody Directory, 1925-26
Polk's Salem Directory, 1930-70.
12. Polk's Salem Directory, 1960.

PRESENT CONDITION

The Goldstein Building's ground floor was drastically altered ca. 1955. The original round arched central entrance has been covered with red stretcher bond brickwork. (see figure 1) This modern fabric is unsympathetic with the multi-colored brickwork of the upper floor. "Professional Building" appears in raised aluminum block lettering on this central section.

The number of storefronts has been reduced from four to two. Originally each storefront had its own recessed central entrance. These entrances were flanked by glass enclosed display areas. Currently access to an insurance agency and hardware store is gained via entrances adjacent to the brick covered central section. Modern brick and metal treatments enframe the storefronts. Suspended above these commercial spaces is a rectangular metal canopy. Above the canopy are red and aquamarine enameled panels. "Allyn Hardware" appears in neon lettering above the eastern portion of the canopy.

The original second floor fabric is essentially intact. No longer extant is a stepped parapet. The hollow metal cornice is painted yellow. It displays a modillion cornice flanked by elaborate acanthus leaf consoles.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In the 1950's or 60's this commercial block's ground floor was refaced with modern brick work, wide display windows, metal marquees, and enameled metal panels. Its round arched central entrance was bricked over. While this remodeling was done to keep the building up-to-date the result is a lack of harmony between the ground and second floors. A more sympathetic design for the stores might include the reduction of display window size by the installation of brick piers and metal transoms. The removal of the metal marquee and panels above the store windows would reveal recessed brick panels. Signs similar in size and lettering to the F.W. Woolworth sign in Figure 1 might be placed within these panels.



FIGURE 1

The Goldstein Block (Professional Building) circa 1930

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 10 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Warren Five Cents Savings Bank

2) HISTORIC NAME Warren Five Cents Savings Bank

3) PROPERTY TYPE bank

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1893, remodeled 1936 and 1964

SOURCE _____

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER _____

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF banking rooms UF banking rooms

4) PRESENT USE: GF banking rooms UF banking rooms

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Neo Adamesque

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION Not visible

FACADE Flemish bond red brick

TRIM metal, marble, freestone

VIEW FROM South

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 10 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF intact with evolutionary changes
UF N/A
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

In 1868 two dwellings occupied the site of the Warren Five Cents Savings Bank. On the eastern portion of this property was the house of Abigail Preston.¹ She was the widow of Levi Preston who worked for M.A. Shackley's Boston and Peabody Rail Road Express.² A small two and one half story Greek Revival dwelling owned by Major Lewis Allen was situated on the western portion of the property. (see Figure 1) Allen, one of Peabody's leading shoe manufacturers, was a president of the Warren Bank and owner of the Allen Block in Peabody Square.³

By 1874⁴ a third structure was built on the narrow parcel between Allen's dwelling and the Allen Block's 1857 addition. The new two story frame structure housed A.F. Whidden and Son, Inc. Hardware Store. (see Figure 2) A.F. Whidden was born on Septmeber 9, 1843. He lived just over the Peabody line in Salem on the Boston Road. He was a "veteran of the Civil War and a member of local organizations."⁵

In 1888 Whidden acquired Allen's Main Street dwelling.⁶ He raised this structure on to a new commercial ground floor. (see Figures 3 and 3A) On April 28, 1888 it was reported that A.H. Whidden had "moved into his new store on Main Street which was fitted up with a birch floor, light trimmings and two plate glass windows."⁷ A.H. Whidden was the proprietor of this hardware store until his death on June 1, 1920.⁸ The Whidden's conducted business in these two buildings until 1964 when its buildings were demolished to accomodate the new addition to the Warren Five Cents Savings Bank.⁹

A three story bank building was built in 1892 on the eastern portion of the Warren Five Cents Savings bank's site. (see Figure 4) This Italian Rennaissance Revival building was "built by and chiefly for the use of the South Danvers National Bank which has done business in the little brick house, corner of Main and Holten Street, since it was established in 1825."¹⁰ (see Figure 5) The South Danvers Savings Bank's move was precipitated by "the change of the business center of the town and the need for modern conveniences."¹¹ It became apparent to the bank's directors that "a location nearer the Square was necessary in order to share in the new business coming into the community."¹²

The architect of the South Danvers Savings Bank Building was Arthur F. Gray of 52 State Street, Boston.¹³ The contractors were the New England Building and Manufacturing Company.¹⁴ Ground was broken for the basement on May 19, 1892.¹⁵ It was opened to the public on May 26, 1893.¹⁶ In 1900 the South Danvers Bank failed "causing much hardship to the town."¹⁷

The Warren Five Cents Savings Bank bought the South Danvers Savings Bank building in 1907.¹⁸ The Warren Five Cents Savings Bank was the third bank to be established in Peabody.¹⁹ Incorporated in 1854,²⁰ it shared banking rooms with the Warren Bank in the Italianate Warren Bank Building on Peabody Square. (see Figure 6) Extensively remodeled in the 1950's this bank building presently houses the Shawmut Merchants Bank.

When the Warren Five Cents Savings Bank acquired the South Danvers Savings Bank building in 1907 it set up its banking rooms on the ground floor. Its upper floors were leased to the Odd Fellows.²¹ Randall's Barber Shop was the tenant in the bank's basement.²²

In 1936²³ the Warren Five Cents Savings Bank building was extensively remodeled. (see Figure 7) The upper floors were taken off and the facilities were enlarged. The cost of the remodeling was \$45,000.²⁴ The vault door and furnishings cost an additional \$15,000.¹⁵ Italian Renaissance surface treatments were replaced by those of the Neo Adamesque style.

In 1964²⁶ the Warren Five Cents Savings Bank was "enlarged to more than double its size when it acquired the Whidden Buildings, and made an addition at that site on Main Street."²⁷ The new addition's facade is a continuation of the Neo Adamesque surface treatments of the 1936 remodeling.

Footnotes

1. 1868 Essex County Atlas
2. 1873 Danvers Directory
3. see report on the Allen Block
4. Peabody Press, May 6, 1874, p. 1.
5. Peabody Press, June 1, 1920, p. 1.
6. Peabody Press, April 28, 1888, p. 2.
7. Ibid., p.2.
8. Peabody Press, June 1, 1920, p. 1.
9. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 261.
10. Peabody Press, May 27, 1893, p. 2.
11. Ibid., p. 2.
12. Ibid., p. 2.
13. Ibid., p. 2.
14. Ibid., p. 2.
15. Ibid., p. 2.
16. Ibid., p. 2.
17. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 232.
18. Ibid., p. 281.
19. Ibid., p. 281.
20. Ibid., p. 281.
21. Ibid., p. 281.
22. Ibid., p. 281.
23. Ibid., p. 281.
24. Ibid., p. 281.
25. Ibid., p. 281.
26. Ibid., p. 281.
27. Ibid., p. 281.

PRESENT CONDITION

This building's Main Street facade is in good condition.
see photograph.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Warren Five Cents Savings Bank's Neo Adamesque facade is compatible with the Colonial Revival commercial buildings in the Main Street, Peabody Square area.



FIGURE 1

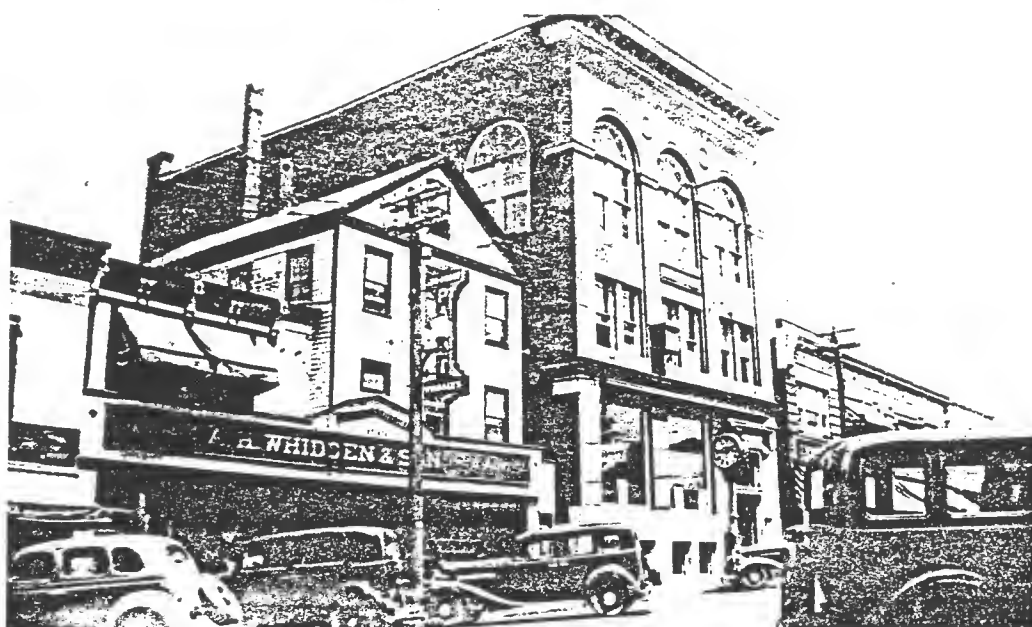
Courtesy of the Peabody Historical Society



FIGURE 2

A. H. Whidden Store - built 1874

Courtesy of Peabody Historical Society



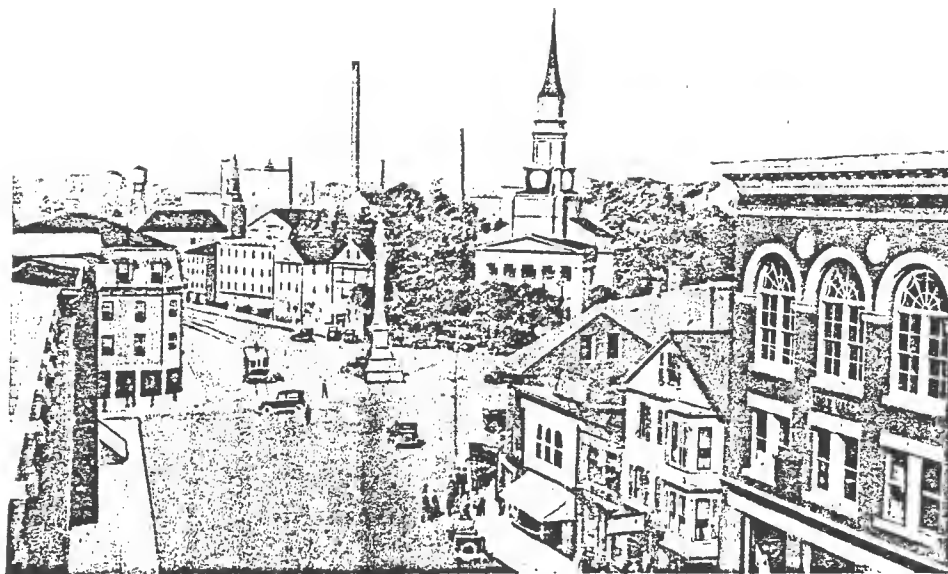
A.H. Whidden
& Son store
1874

Lewis Allen
House ca. 1845
purchased and raised
by A. H. Whidden in
1888

South Danvers
Saving Bank built
in 1892. In 1907
it was purchased by
the Warren Five
Cents Savings Bank.

Photograph courtesy of John A. Wells

FIGURE 3



PEABODY SQUARE, PEABODY, MASS.

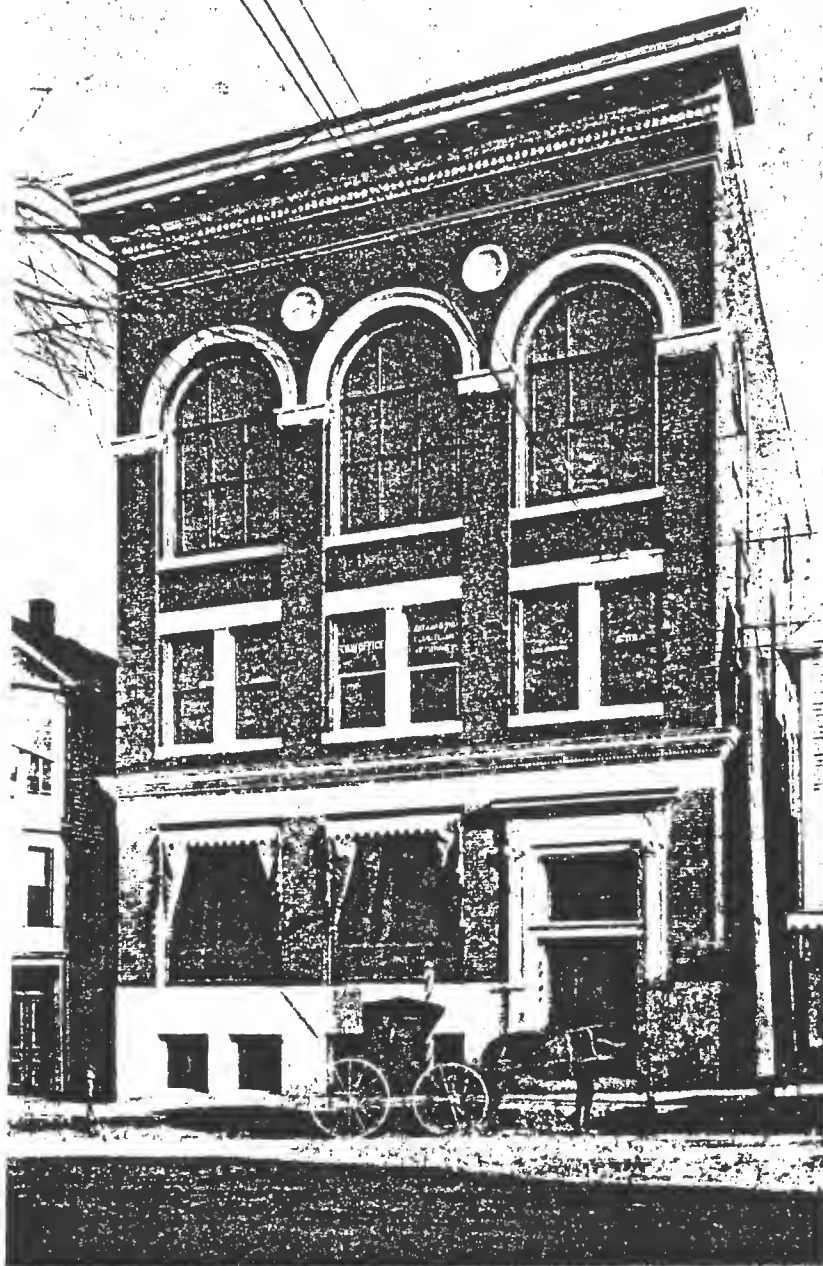


FIGURE 3A

postcard courtesy of John A. Wells

Site of present
Warren Five Cents
Savings Bank

— ESSEX INSTITUTE —
JAMES DUNCAN PHILLIPS LIBRARY



SOUTH DANVERS NAT'L BANK BL'K—PEABODY.

FIGURE 4



FIRST BANK OF PEABODY- South Danvers National Bank established in 1825 . Picture taken in 1888 when it was at Main and Holten Streets. This bank served both Peabody and Danvers in its early years. So. Danvers Mutual Fire Insurance Co. in same building was formed in 1829. This bank failed in 1900 causing much hardship to the town.

FIGURE 5

from The Peabody Story, John A. Wells

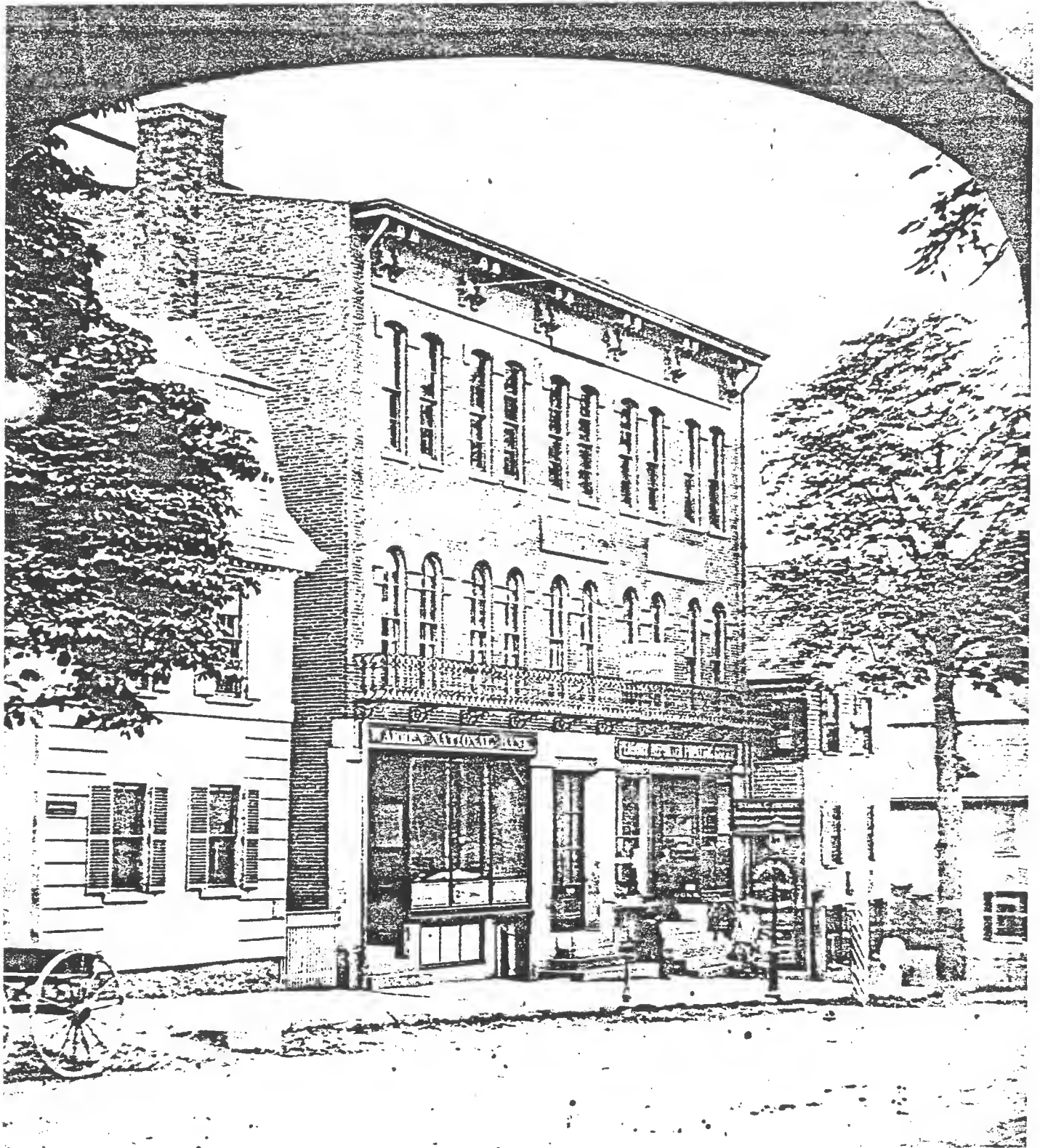
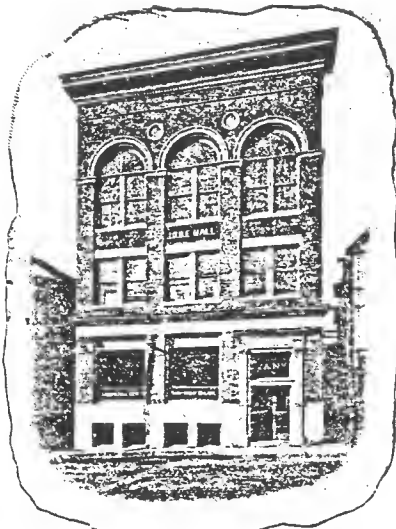


FIGURE 6

Warren Bank Building, the first home of the Warren Five Cents Savings Bank, now the remodeled Shawmut Merchants Bank, Peabody Square



THE WARREN FIVE CENTS
SAVINGS BANK BEFORE
REMODELING

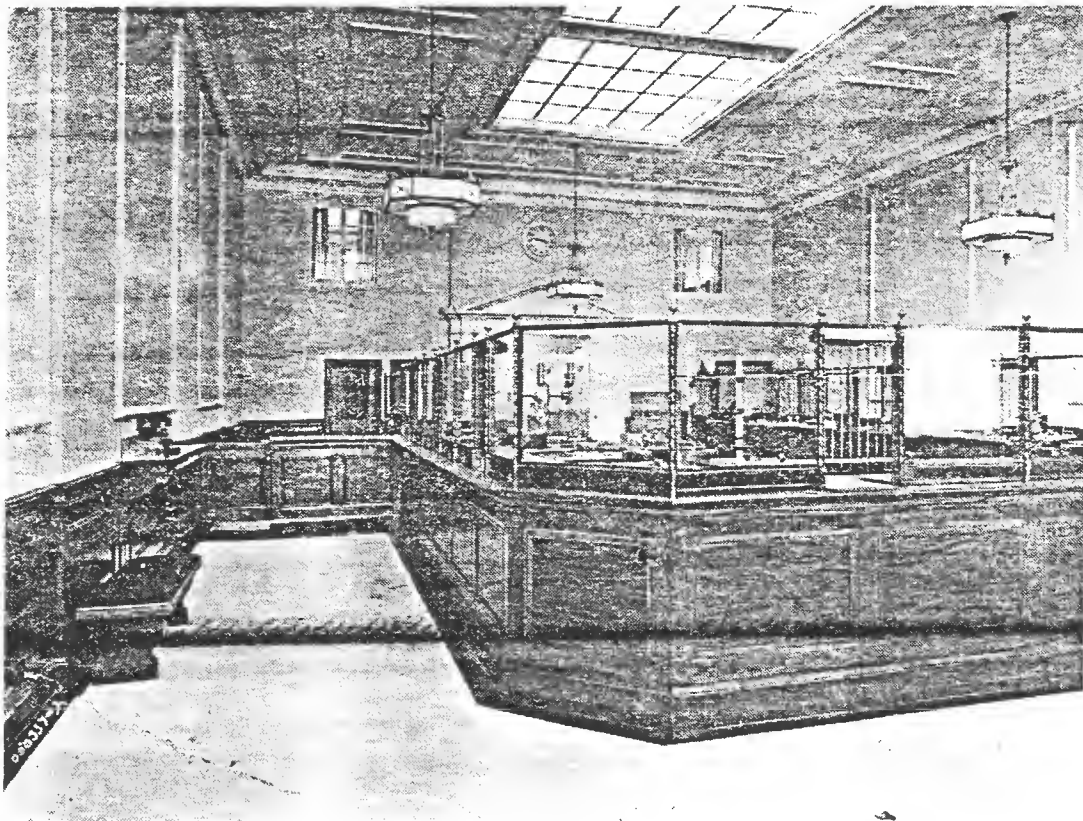


FIGURE 7

The Warren Five Cents Savings Bank after its 1936 remodeling

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 2 Main Street

1) CURRENT OWNER Gordon Realty Trust

2) HISTORIC NAME Allen Block Addition

3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1857

SOURCE Wells, John A., Peabody Story.

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF offices

4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF offices

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Italianate

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION not visible

FACADE stucco covered brick

TRIM ornamental metal cornice

VIEW FROM South

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 2 Main Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF major and irreversible changes
UF intact with evolutionary changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to character

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Built in 1857¹ this Italianate structure was originally owned by Major Lewis Allen.² (see report on the Allen Block) It abutts the eastern wall of the brick Federal style block (1830) which bears Allen's name. Apparently 2 Main Street was built to extend the Allen Block. In 1873 B.F. Stevens and Co. Stationers was located in "Allen's Block, Main."³ Like the Allen Block which housed professional offices on its upper floors, the second floor of 2 Main Street contained a succession of doctors' and lawyers' offices. A.M. Dudley Dentist was a tenant of this building during the 1870's.

By 1910 the dentist on the second floor was a C.W. Wright while the ground floor was occupied by Gates' Grocery Store.⁵ During the 1920's T.E. Gray Co. Grocers and D.C. Mannin, Lawyer, were located at this address.⁶ Tenants of the 1930's and 40's included the Royal Candy Shop and Kennedy and Co. Groceries.⁷ From 1950 until the 1960's Leo's Shoe Service was the ground floor tenant.⁸ Presently ABBMA Stamps and Coins occupies 2 Main Street.

Footnotes

1. Wells, John A., Peabody Story, p.
2. Wells, John A., Peabody Story, p.
3. Danvers Directory, 1873
4. Danvers Directory, 1873
5. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1910.
6. Naumkeag Salem Directory, 1925-26
7. Polk's Salem Directory, 1930, 1940.
8. Polk's Salem Directory, 1950, 1960.

PRESENT CONDITION

This two story structure is constructed of brick and is of a rectangular plan. Its narrow southern wall faces Main Street while its northern wall is opposite Mill Street. It is flanked by the Allen Block to the west and the Warren Five Cents Savings Bank to the east.

Its ground floor is faced with modern glass display windows enframed by thin metal strips. Above the awning is a rectangular metal sign. This sign reads "ABBMA Stamps and Coins". Above the sign, in the center of the stucco covered upper floor, are four narrow windows. The original cast iron bracketed cornice is still intact. The roof is flat.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

2 Main Street was built as an addition to the Allen Block in 1857. It has significant historical associations with Major Lewis Allen, founder of Peabody last and shoe manufacturing.

The potential for returning this building to its 1850's appearance is high. Much of its original fabric is still intact and it is well documented by several nineteenth century photographs.

This structure is commendably free of obtrusive signage. The present sign is admirably restrained in terms of size and lettering. A sign of the same size with gold block lettering against a black background would be more appropriate.

The size of the display windows might be reduced by the addition of transom and wooden panels.

It might also be advisable to reduce the number of second floor windows from four to three. Old photographs show three windows with round cast iron arches in the center of the stucco covered Main Street facade. These 2/2 windows had a sign which read "Dentist" above their arches. The cast iron Italianate cornice is still intact and needs to be painted.



MAIN STREET PEABODY IN 1870's - B.F. Stevens Jeweler and ticket office for horse cars and omnibus. Allen Block to left and Whiddens Hardware at right founded in 1874.

FIGURE 1

from John A. Wells' Peabody Story, p. 288.



2 MAIN STREET

FIGURE 2

Courtesy of the Peabody Historical Society

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 14 - 18 1/2 Peabody Square

1) CURRENT OWNER Gordon, David J., Trustee, David Gordon Trust

2) HISTORIC NAME Allen Block

3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial

4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1830, 1871

SOURCE John A. Wells, The Peabody Story, pp. 240-241

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF offices

4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF hotel

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Federal (southern portion); Italianate (northern portion)

2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION not visible

FACADE brick common bond (1830); stretcher bond (1871)

TRIM brownstone painted white

VIEW FROM west

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF major but reversible changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, government
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING severely disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING focal point in area

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Rounding the northeastern corner of Main Street and Peabody Square and extending northward to Mill Street is the brick Allen Block. This three story commercial structure is composed of three sections. Its nucleus dates to 1830¹ and is distinguished by a wide curved front wall. Its Federal Period main facade displays windows set into elegant blind arches. Abutting its southeastern wall is a two story Italianate addition which was built in 1857.² (For a detailed description of the Allen Block's second section see report on 2 Main Street.) A third section, built in 1871,³ extended from the 1830 building's northern wall to Mill Street. All three portions were owned by Major Lewis Allen.⁴ He was the founder of Peabody's boot and shoe industry. For over fifty years Allen played a major role in the business and civic affairs of Peabody.

Major Lewis Allen was born on July 26, 1794 at Weston, Massachusetts.⁵ He was related to Ethan Allen, leader of the Green Mountain Boys of Revolutionary War fame.⁶ Allen's Horatio Alger-like rise to prominence as a wealthy business leader began at the age of twenty one. In 1815, on a visit to Boston, he "saw a pair of pegged shoes; on his return he went to work and made a pair of shoes whitling [sic] out each peg with his jack knife. This was thought to be the first pair of pegged shoes made in Essex County at that time."⁷

Allen arrived in Peabody in 1817.⁸ He invested \$50 in savings in a shoe manufacturing business which he conducted "on a small scale at his residence."⁹ Allen's two and one half story frame dwelling was located on the site of the 1871 addition to the Allen Block. (figure 1) A measure of Allen's early success was his construction of a three story brick commercial block on a key Peabody Square site in 1830. (figures 1, 2, 3, 4) The old Reed House which had occupied this lot was "removed to make room for Major Allen's brick block."¹⁰ Mathew Hooper, brick maker, supplied the Allen Block's building materials.¹¹ The construction of Allen's building was greeted with great skepticism

on the part of the townspeople. Allen became "the butt of much ridicule but the wisdom of his action was appreciated in later years."¹² Indeed the Allen Block became the center of Peabody's boot and shoe industry and was the headquarters for Allen's far-reaching business concerns. He owned boot and shoe stores in New York from 1827 to 1832 and at Zanesville, Ohio for 10 years.¹³ The Allen Block also housed Peabody's first Post Office and the Warren National Bank.¹⁴

Peabody's Post Office was established on November 30, 1831.¹⁵ Before the Post Office was organized "mail for the town was brought in by a mounted carrier from Salem, somewhat like the Pony Express."¹⁶ The Post Office was located in the Allen Block from 1831 until the late 1860's and again from 1890 until 1910.¹⁷

From 1832 until 1854,¹⁸ the Warren National Bank was a ground floor tenant. (figure 1) Allen was intimately involved in the affairs of Peabody's second bank, having been a petitioner for the bank's charter.¹⁹ He became the bank's director in 1852 and was its director from 1850 until 1886.²⁰

In 1857 a two story structure was built on the narrow lot between the Allen Block's southeastern wall and a Greek Revival dwelling owned by Allen. Behind its stucco covered Italianate Main Street facade was B.F. Steven's Jewelry store.²¹ The upper floor contained a dentist's office. (figure 5) By 1871 Allen added the three story brick addition which abutts the 1830 building's northern wall. The new addition's mason was Samuel Trask.²²

Allen died on November 15, 1886 at the age of 92.²³ The Allen Block remained in his family until 1921 when it was sold to a group of local businessmen for \$93,500.²⁴

While the Allen Block was long associated with boot and shoe stores, a variety of consumer goods, professional services and local organizations were housed in this building. Late nineteenth century commercial concerns included a book and stationary store, grocery store, cigar store and a harness maker's shop.²⁵ From 1874 until 1876 "services were held by St. Paul's Episcopal Mission at Allen's Hall."²⁶ Since the early twentieth century its ground floor has housed druggists, newsdealers, real estate agents, butchers, newspaper employees, jewelers, as well as boot and shoe dealers.²⁷ From the early 1900's until the present, H.S. Raymond's newspaper dealership has been located in the 1871 addition.²⁸ P.J. Woods Real Estate Agency was a ground floor tenant from 1910 until the 1940's.²⁹ Ware and Chakut's Meat Market leased a store in the Allen Block from the late 1930's until the 1960's.

The upper floors contained lawyers' offices, insurance agencies, and George Pickering's coal company from the 1900's until the 1950's. A meeting hall was also located above the street level. Over the

years it was the meeting place of a temperance organization, the Peabody Club, the Odd Fellows, the Holten Lodge, and the Rebekah Starlite Lodge.³²

The Allen Block continues to provide Peabody with a variety of commercial facilities. Its upper floors are presently occupied by the Allen Motor Hotel.

Footnotes

1. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 240.
2. Ibid., p. 288.
3. Ibid., p. 240-241.
4. Ibid., p. 240-241.
5. Peabody Press; August 25, 1883, p. 5.
6. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 240-241.
7. Peabody Press; October 6, 1880, p. 5.
8. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 240-241.
9. Ibid., p. 240-241.
10. Collections of newspaper clippings from The Comet, 1869.
(Essex Institute Library)
11. Massachusetts Historical Survey Form on 14-18 1/2 Peabody Square, prepared by Dan Doucette.
12. Peabody Press; August 25, 1883, p. 5.
13. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 240-241.
14. Ibid., p. 277-8, p. 280.
15. Ibid., p. 277-8.
16. Ibid., p. 278.
17. Ibid., p. 278.
18. Ibid., p. 280.
19. Ibid., p. 280.
20. Ibid., p. 240-41.
21. Ibid., p. 288.
22. Peabody Press; May 3, 1871.
23. Peabody Press; November 16, 1886.
24. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 240-41.
25. see figures 1, 3, 6.
26. Collection of newspaper clippings from The Comet, 1869;
(Essex Institute Library).
27. see Salem-Peabody Directories (Naumkeag and Polk series 1910-1970)
28. Ibid., 1905-present.
29. Ibid., 1910-40.
30. Ibid., 1938-60.
31. Ibid., 1908-50.
32. Ibid., 1910-70.

PRESENT CONDITION

The Allen Block retains most of its original form, fabric and trim. This brick structure's walls have been painted white. The ground floor has been extensively changed with modern brickwork, metal coverings, and wide display windows. Metal signs of various sizes and lettering types appear above the stores. Still extant on its rounded southeastern corner are Federal Period windows in recessed blind arches and a round arched entrance.

The upper floors of both its 1830 and 1871 portions display Federal and Italianate window treatments. The second floor windows of the 1830 nucleus are partially hidden by a metal sign which reads "The Allen Motor Hotel".

The block was once surmounted by a steeply pitched hip roof (see figure 11) with an overhanging cornice supported by brackets. Its Mill Street wall once had a tall gable. Presently the roof is flat as the result of a fire, and a wide aluminum fascia tops the facade in place of the lost cornice.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Perhaps the most threatened group of architecturally significant buildings in the United States today are downtown commercial structures. While the appearance of residences may change relatively little over the years, commercial buildings are frequently altered for the sake of being "up to date". Peabody is fortunate to have a nineteenth century commercial block whose form, fabric and trim are remarkably intact. The Allen Block provides a unique opportunity to study the structural and stylistic evolution of a nineteenth century building which housed a variety of small businesses, professional offices, and community organizations. Its three portions, built in 1830, 1857, and 1871 have significant historical associations with Major Lewis Allen. He was a major figure in nineteenth century Peabody's business and civic affairs. As Peabody Square's highly visible northeastern anchor, the Allen Block deserves historically sympathetic surface treatments.

With the exception of the fenestration of the 1830 building's curved corner, none of the ground floor storefronts or round arched entrances are extant. While it may not be advisable to recreate the ground floor's original appearance, the building would be enhanced by signs of uniform size and lettering. This building would benefit from the removal of the Allen Motor Hotel sign which covers the windows' recessed blind arches.

This block's appearance might also be enhanced by the removal of its white paint in favor of the exposure of its red brick fabric. The re-installation of a cornice would greatly help the Allen Block to convey something of its handsome original aspect.



FIGURE 1
THE ALLEN BLOCK



MAIN ST S DANVERS TAKEN FROM F. DANES WAREHOUSE

↑
ALLEN BLOCK
ca. 1855

FIGURE 2

Courtesy of the Peabody Institute,
Peabody, Massachusetts

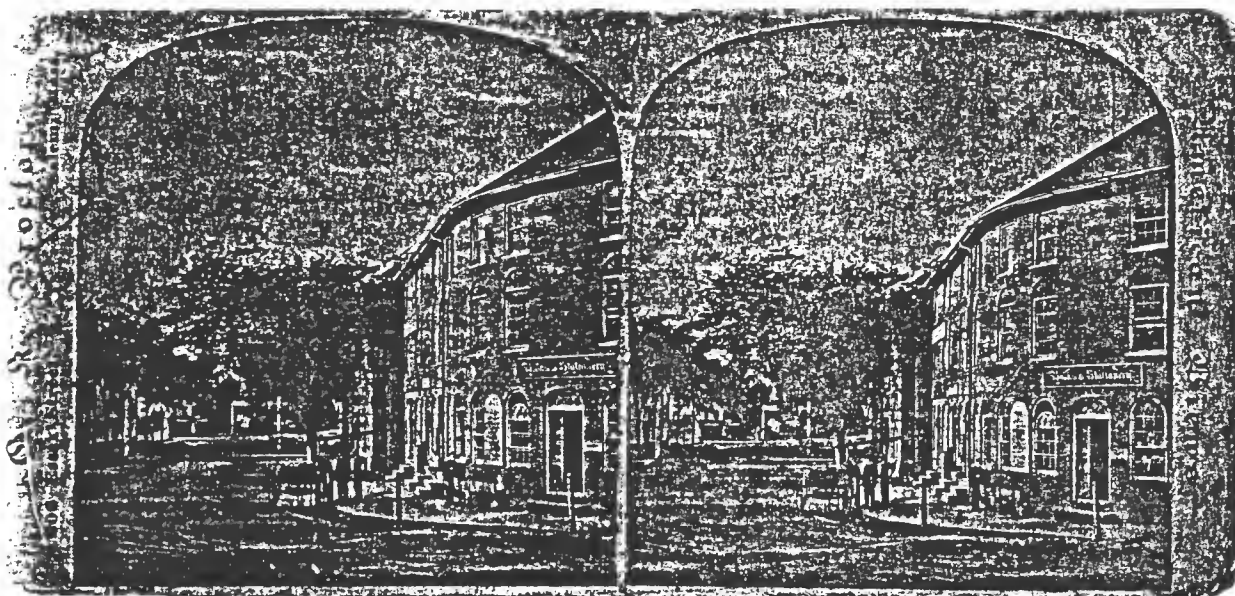


FIGURE 3

STEREOPTICON VIEW

S.R. Proctor
206 Essex St.
Salem, MA

From Society for the Preservation of
New England Antiquities library



PEABODY SQUARE IN 1865 looking towards Main Street. Shown on left is original Allen Block before addition. Warren National Bank on right.

FIGURE 4

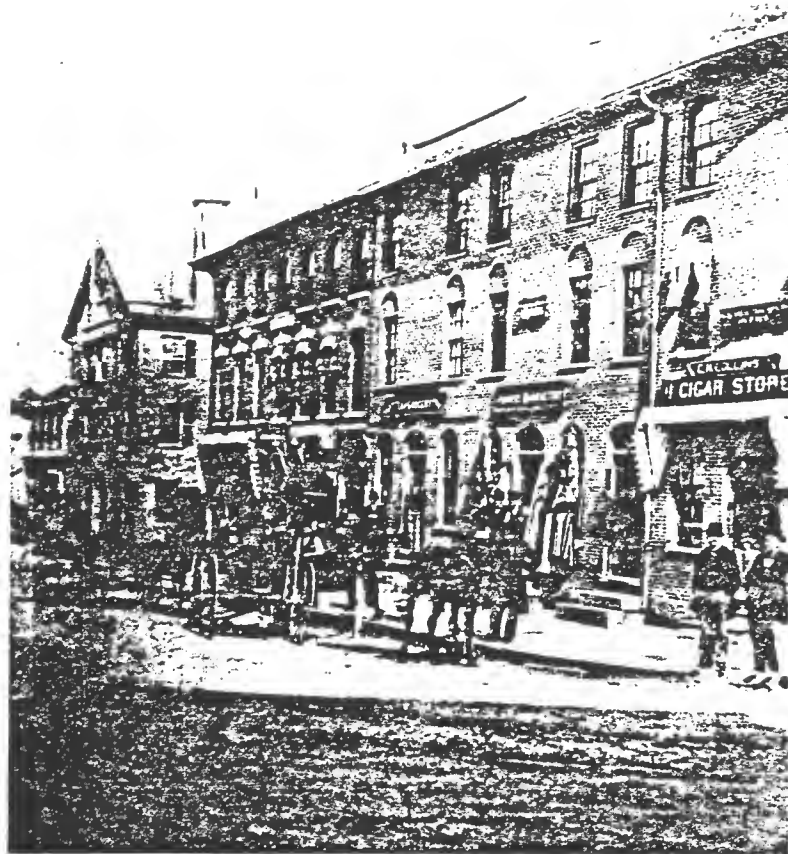
From John A. Wells,
The Peabody Story



MAIN STREET PEABODY IN 1870's - B.F. Stevens Jeweler and ticket office for horse cars and omnibus. Allen Block to left and Whiddens Hardware at right founded in 1874.

FIGURE 5

From John A. Wells,
The Peabody Story



ALLEN BLOCK AND HOTEL SYMONDS at left in 1875. The Allen Block was built in 1830 and addition to left made in 1871. Symonds Hotel originally Dustin Tavern built in 1825. Both are landmarks of Peabody Square today.

FIGURE 6

From John A. Wells,
The Peabody Story

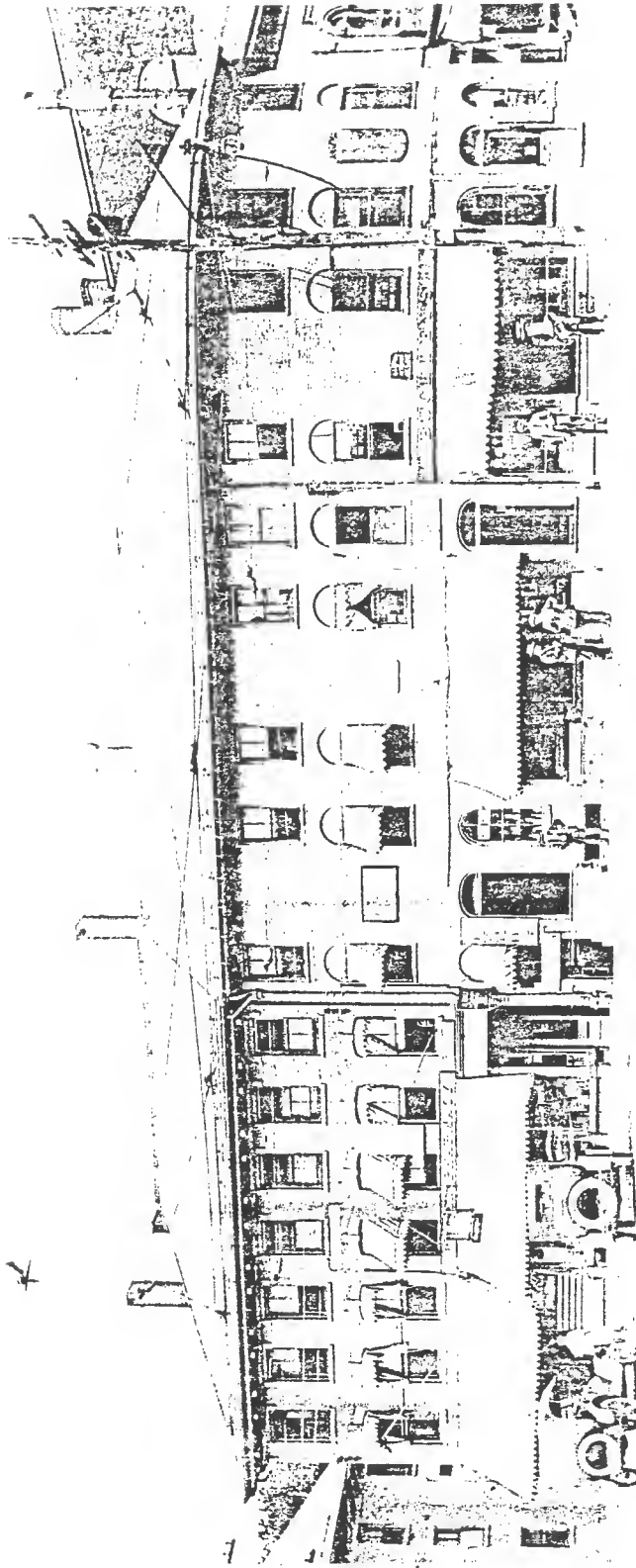


FIGURE 7

ALLEN BLOCK

Courtesy of the Peabody Historical Society

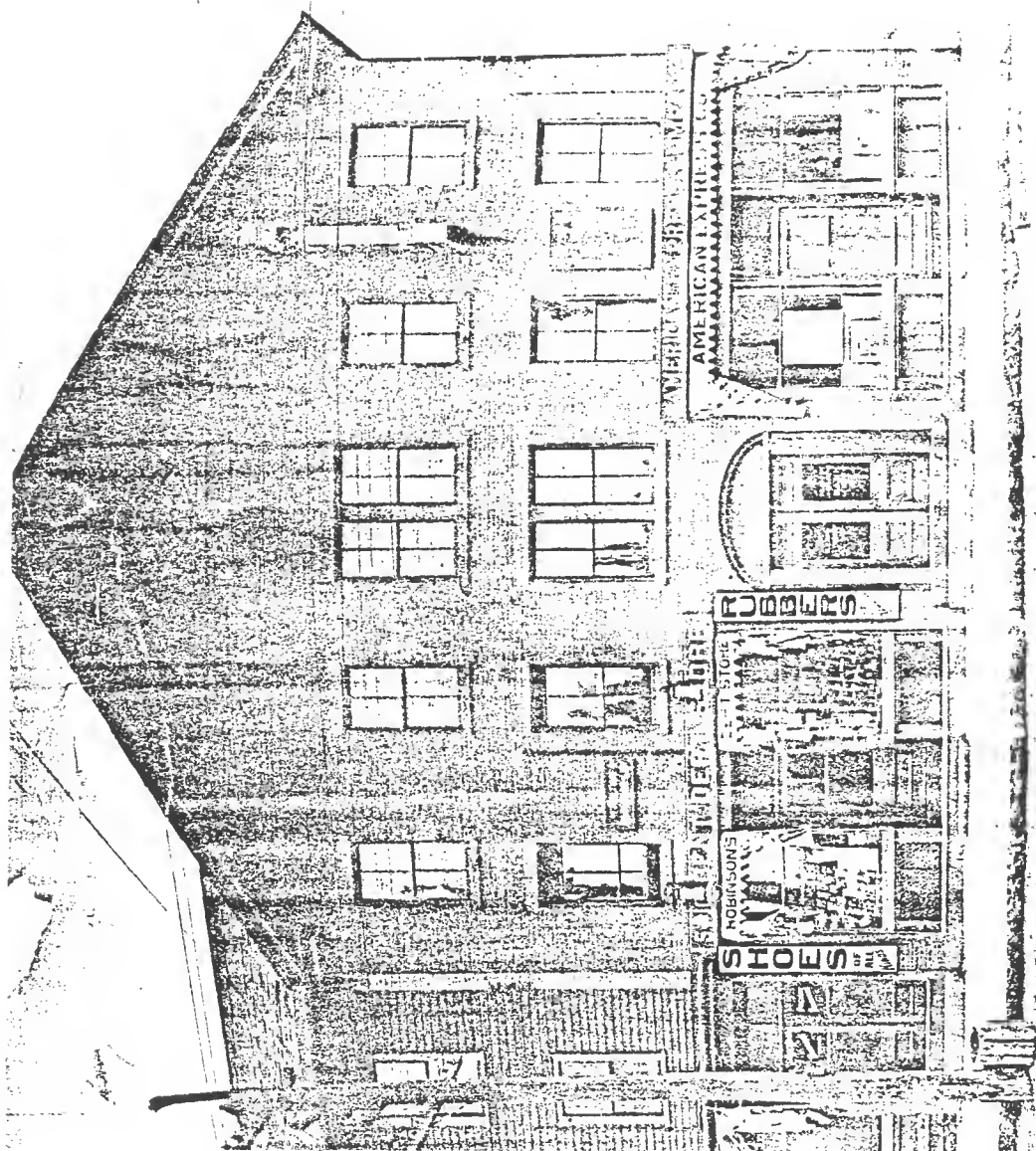


FIGURE 8

ALLEN BLOCK - 1915
(1871 addition)

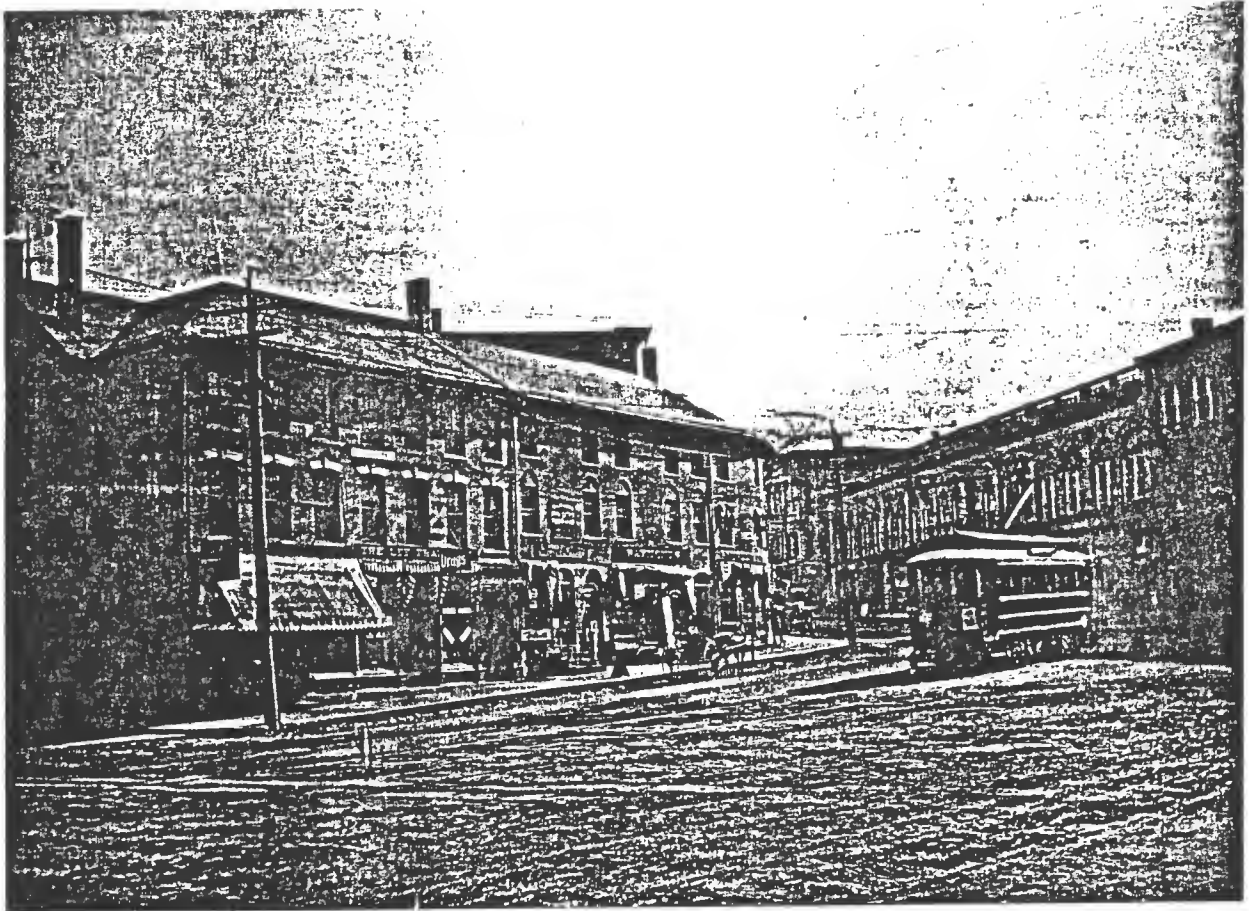
Courtesy of the Peabody
Historical Society



MONUMENT SQUARE. (1890).

FIGURE 9

From John A. Wells,
The Peabody Story



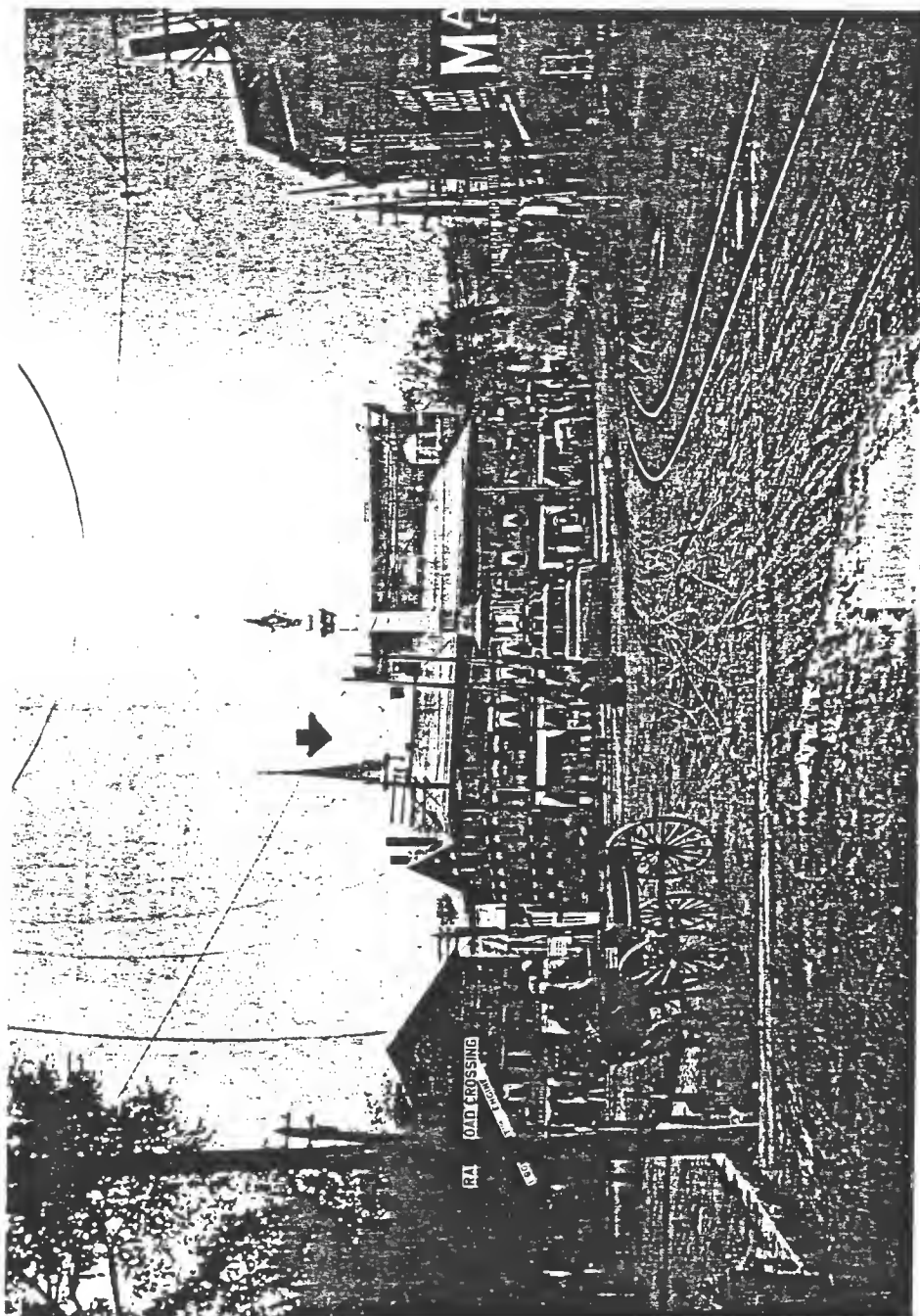
ALLEN BLOCK

O'Shea Building
9 Main Street

FIGURE 10

ALLEN BLOCK

Courtesy of the Society for
the Preservation of New
England Antiquities



Note roof configuration

FIGURE 11

ALLEN BLOCK, PEABODY SQUARE

Courtesy of The Society for the
Preservation of New England Antiquities



Roof of Allen Block

FIGURE 12

Courtesy of
John A. Wells

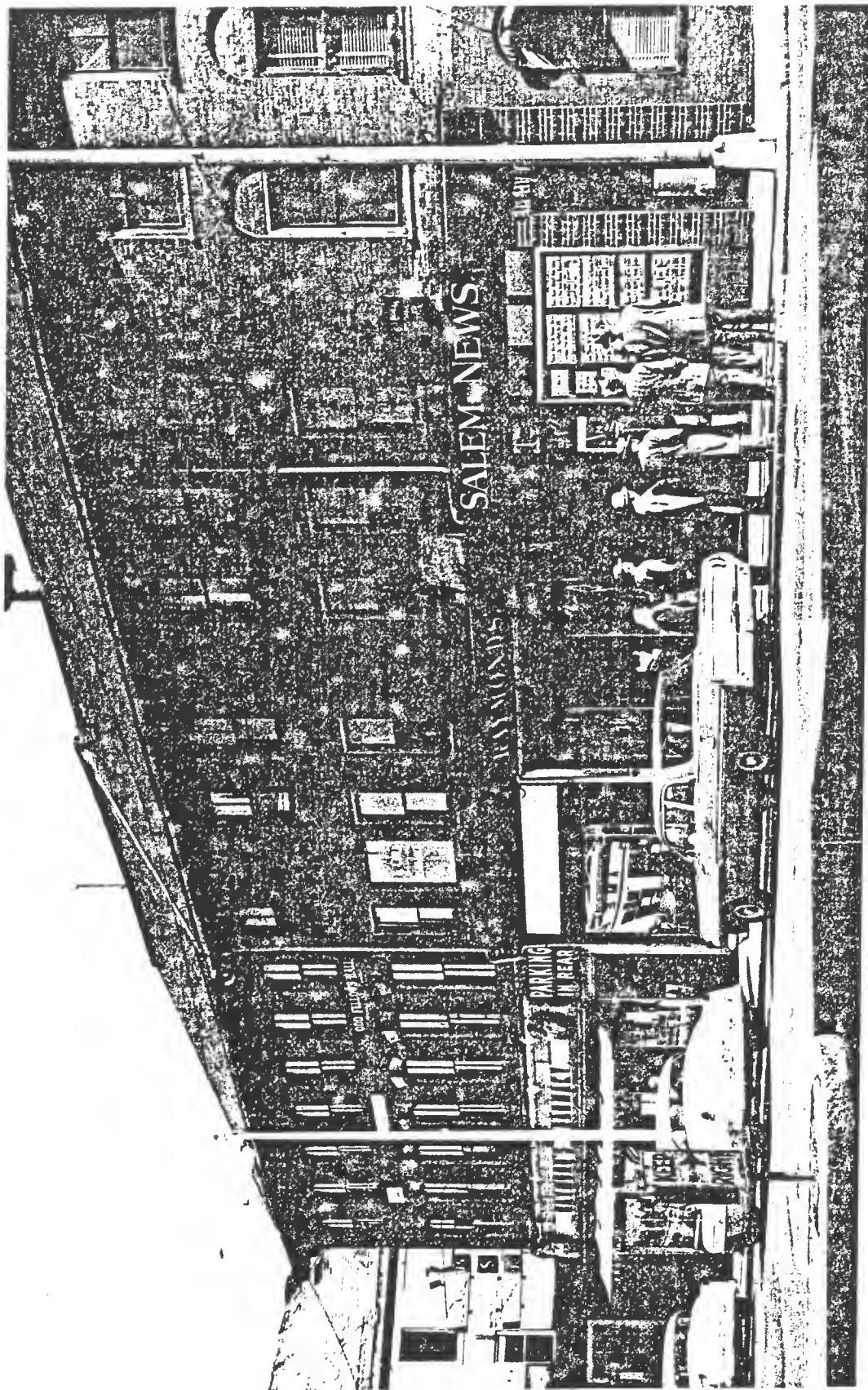


FIGURE 13

ALLEN BLOCK

Courtesy of Gordon Realty,
Peabody, Massachusetts

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 12 Peabody Square

- 1) CURRENT OWNER _____

2) HISTORIC NAME Sun Tavern/Dustin Hotel
3) PROPERTY TYPE commercial
4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1825, altered 1962
SOURCE The Peabody Story, John A. Wells
2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER Jonathan Dustin
3) ORIGINAL USE: GF Tavern UF Hotel
4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF offices

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Colonial
2) MATERIALS:
FOUNDATION dressed granite
FACADE red brick laid common bond (9 stretchers to 1 header)
TRIM brownstone lintels, sills
VIEW FROM West PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 12 Peabody Square

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC much altered
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES fire - 1962
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF major and irreversible changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, railroad, government, industrial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING drastically disrupted
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING detracts from historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

12 Peabody Square was originally three and one half stories tall. It was constructed of brick and had a ridge roof (see figures 1, 2). A 1962¹ fire reduced this structure to two stories.

Built in 1825,² this structure housed the Sun Tavern on its ground floor. The upper floors contained Dustin's Hotel. Jonathan Dustin was this building's first owner.³ He also owned lots presently occupied by 10 and 27 Lowell Street.⁴ His daughter Eliza married the wealthy local wool manufacturer Ebenezer Sutton (see report on 55 Main Street).

From 1852 until 1884 this building was leased to Charles Simonds and was called Simonds Hotel.⁵ W.H. Baldwin was the hotel's proprietor until 1886.⁶

In 1886 Josiah B. Thomas bought the entire property from the Dustin heirs.⁷ He remodeled the hotel into a business block. It was known for many years as the Thomas Block.⁸ Josiah B. Thomas (1827-1898) was a prominent Peabody businessman who made a fortune in the meat business. His real estate holdings were the largest in Peabody during the late nineteenth century. (see report on 2 Washington Street)

Elmer B. Thomas sold this property in April 1908, "through the agency of P.J. Woods and Co. to Mrs. Mary E. Mulcahy."⁹ The assessed value of the property was \$13,500.00.¹⁰ A wooden three and one half story L was included in the sale of this lot.¹¹

During the 1890's Peabody's Post Office was located in the old Sun Tavern/Thomas Block.¹² From the early 1900's until 1952 the Peabody Cooperative Bank was located on its ground floor.¹³ In 1952 this bank moved to its present building at 34 Main Street. Long time office tenants of the upper floors included William Fay, lawyer (1915 - the 1950's), J.J. Quick Real Estate (1910 - 1930), and John R. Lane,

optometrist (1940's through 1960's).¹⁴ Before moving to 116 Main Street the Hellenic Credit Union had offices in this building (1960).¹⁵

By 1970 the Peabody Credit Union, Christ J. Decoulas, accountant, and Nicholas J. Decoulas, lawyer had offices at this address.¹⁶

Footnotes

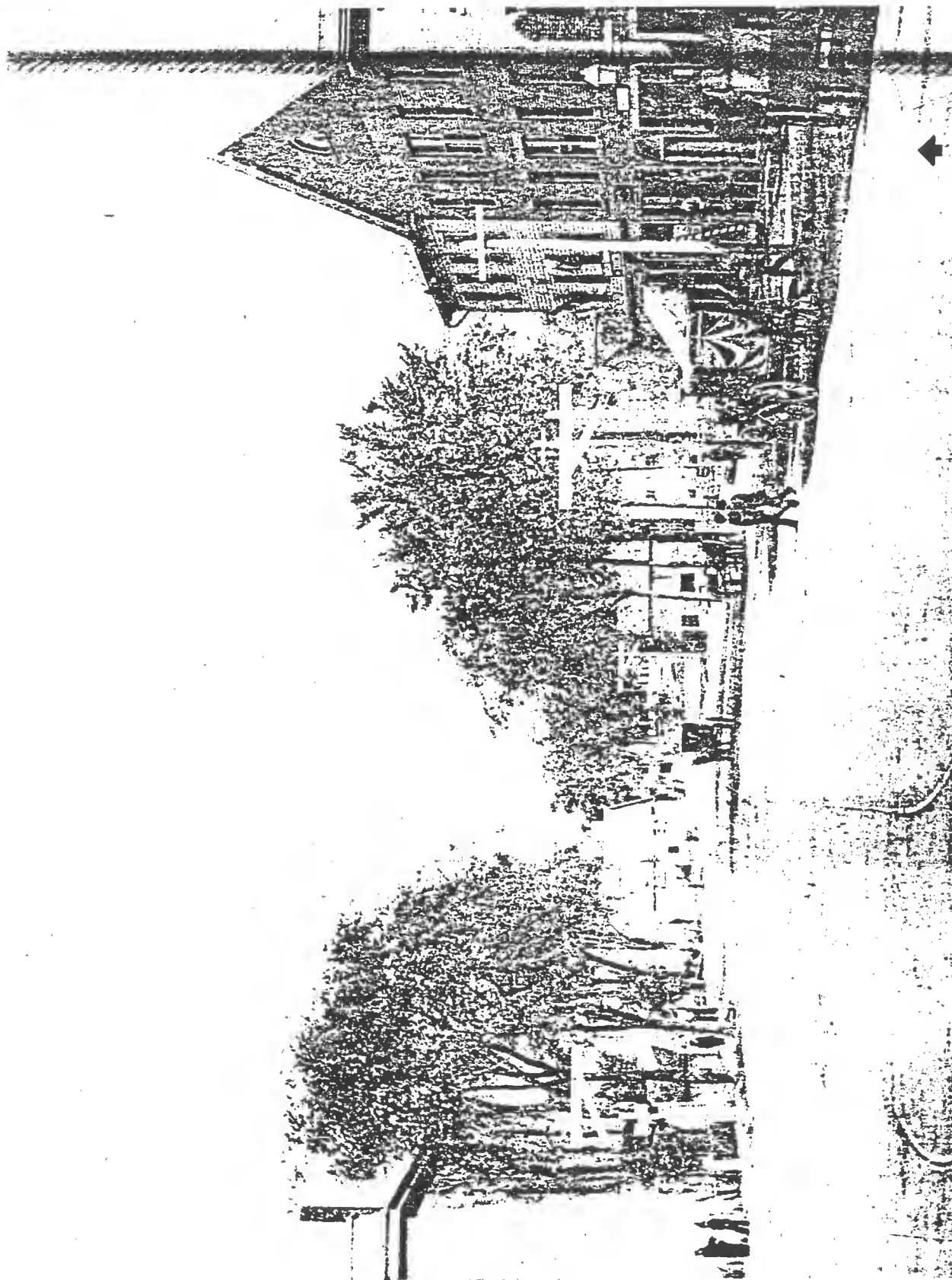
1. Wells, John A., The Peabody Story, pp. 260-261.
2. Ibid., pp. 260-261.
3. Ibid., pp. 260-261.
4. 1868, 1872 Essex County Atlas.
5. Salem Evening News, April, 1908. (No dates; see Peabody Institute's newspaper index.)
6. Salem Evening News, April, 1908.
7. Wells, John A., The Peabody Story, pp. 260-261.
8. Salem Evening News, April, 1908.
9. Ibid.
10. Ibid.
11. Ibid.
12. Naumkeag and Polk's Salem Directories, 1905-1952.
13. Naumkeag and Polk's Salem Directories, 1910-1960.
14. Polk's Salem Directory, 1960.
15. Polk's Salem Directory, 1970.
16. Polk's Salem Directory, 1970.

PRESENT CONDITION

The old Sun Tavern/Thomas Block has undergone extensive structural and stylistic alterations as the result of a 1962 fire. Colonial Revival surface treatments have been applied to what was originally a Federal facade. Still visible is the outline of the central entrance's semi-elliptical arch. Flanking the central entrance are multi-paned "Colonial" windows. A side entrance displays a Georgian enframement. Still intact are the brownstone lintels of the original storefronts. The brownstone sills and lintels of the second floor show signs of weathering. On top of the roof is a white fence.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The much altered brick building which once housed the old Sun Tavern occupies a highly visible lot on the northeastern side of Peabody Square. Before a fire in 1962 it had a third floor, a wide gable and Federal style facade elements. Its post fire appearance may be characterized as Colonial. It might be advisable to restore the third floor and attic if commercial uses could be found for these spaces. Careful consideration should be given to the prospect of restoring the old tavern's Federal features. (see figure 2)



The old Sun Tavern ca. 1890

FIGURE 1

Courtesy of John A. Wells

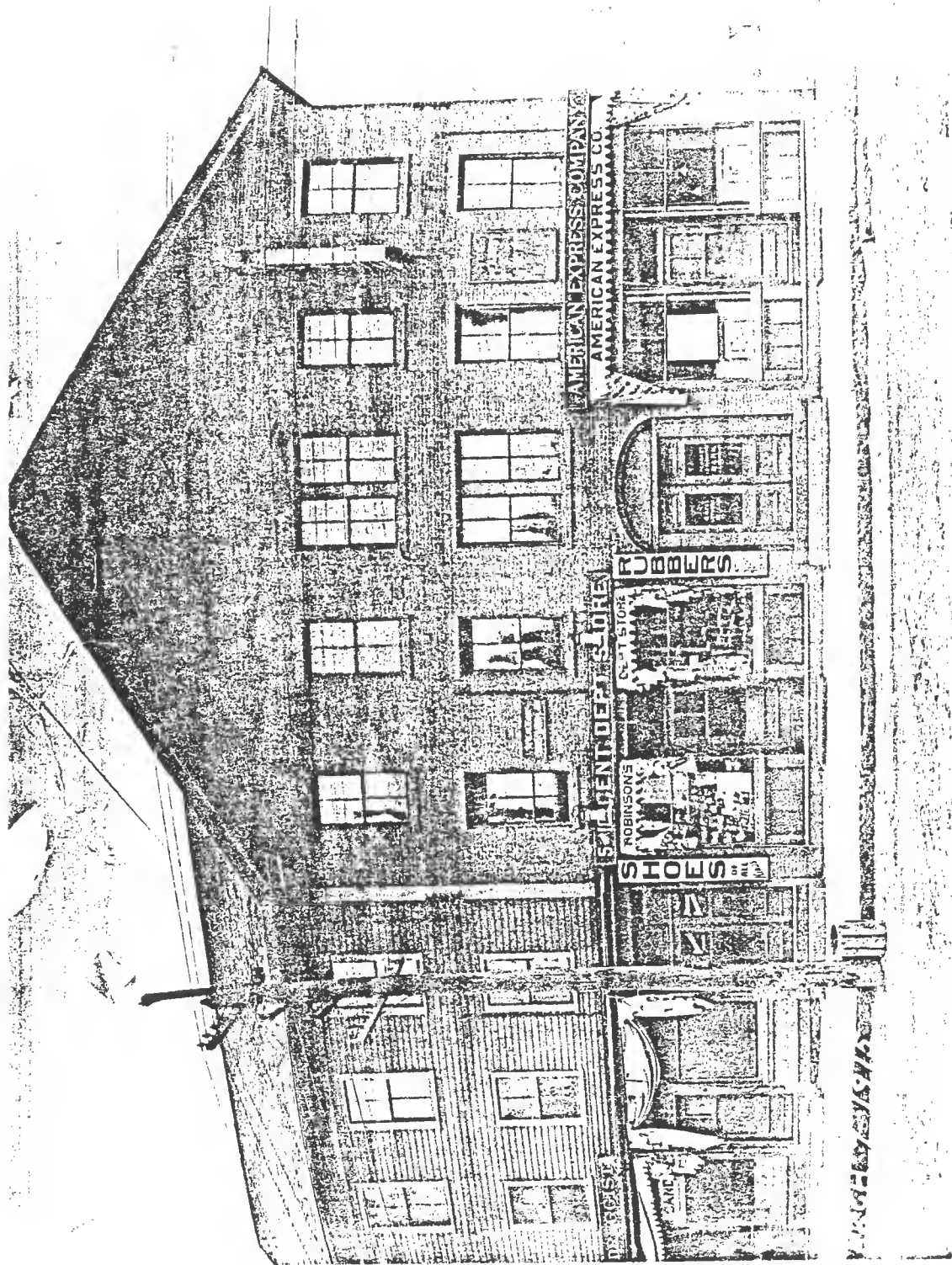
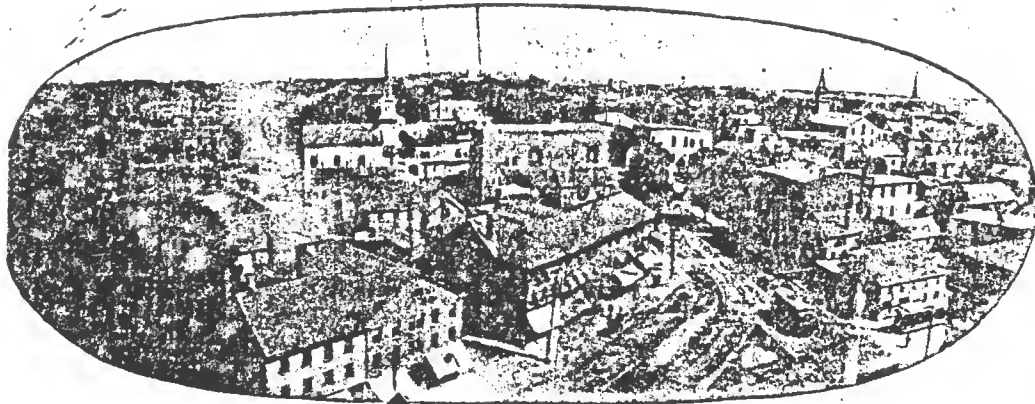


FIGURE 2

The old Sun Tavern/Thomas Block
 photograph taken March 7, 1915

Courtesy of the Peabody
 Historical Society



PEABODY SQUARE, PEABODY, MASS., IN 1902.
Published by Peabody Historical Society, Peabody, Mass. No. 27.

FIGURE 3

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION Peabody Square

- 1) CURRENT OWNER City of Peabody
- 2) HISTORIC NAME District Court (site of South Congregational Church)
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE court house
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE April 1977 - September 1978
- SOURCE Buildings Department, Peabody, Massachusetts
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER Bedar and Alpers, Inc.
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF courthouse UF courthouse
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF courthouse UF courthouse

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE late 1970's modern
- 2) MATERIALS:
- FOUNDATION cement
- FACADE brick and concrete
- TRIM _____

VIEW FROM South PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS Peabody Square

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC excellent
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF intact original fabric
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, government, industrial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING severely disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING compatible with historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Situated on the northwestern side of Peabody Square is the new District Court building. The Court had been previously housed in a building on Lowell Street opposite the Central Fire Station. Its old building, now privately owned, had been built in 1918.¹ Peabody's District court had been established by the State legislature in 1917.² Benjamin G. Hall was the first judge of the Court to serve Peabody and Lynnfield.³

The new District Court building is constructed of brick and concrete. Its building department permit was issued on April 12, 1977. A certification of occupancy was issued on September 20, 1978. Bedar and Alpers, Inc. provided the architectural services.⁴ It was constructed by Piscucchi Brothers, Inc. of Stoneham, Massachusetts.⁵ The District Court's lot was once occupied by the South Congregational Church.

Peabody's South Congregational Society was founded in 1711.⁶ From 1711 until 1825 it was the only church in Peabody. Those espousing other religious beliefs attended services in neighboring communities. The Society's first church was torn down in 1836. The last service in the early eighteenth century structure (see figure 1) was disrupted by a panic. A cracking noise emanating from one of the shored up galleries caused people to jump out windows and rush for the exits. Miraculously no deaths were reported but a number of people were injured in the confusion. The panic at the last service was a harbinger of the difficulties faced by the Society during the early 1840's.

The second church building on this site stood for only six years. Built in 1837 at a cost of \$12,000 it was sold to the Methodist Society in 1843. This church was moved from its Peabody Square site to the

corner of Wahington and Sewall Streets. It is still extant.

A disastrous fire of November 1843 destroyed the partially constructed third church. This conflagration also leveled buildings on the western and southern side of Peabody Square. Soon after the smoke cleared work was begun on the fourth church. It was dedicated on August 10, 1844. The South Congregational Society's fourth church majestically presided over Peabody Square for nearly one hundred and twenty years. (see figures 2 - 8) Its imposing main facade resembled that of a Greek temple. Its portico had Ionic columns and was surmounted by a full pediment. Its tall octagonal tower was a major landmark on the Peabody skyline. This church was demolished in 1961. Its lot was purchased by the American Oil Company. In 1963 the South Congregational Society's fifth church was built on Prospect Street opposite Peabody's North Shore Shopping Mall.

Footnotes

1. Wells, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 477-8.
2. Ibid., p. 467.
3. Ibid., p. 467.
4. Peabody City Hall Buildings Department.
5. Peabody City Hall Buildings Department.
6. The information on the South Congregational Church has been drawn from John A. Wells, The Peabody Story, pp. 477-8.

PRESENT CONDITION

Built in 1978, this building is in excellent condition.
(see photographs)

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In 1962 Peabody Square lost an important focal point and a fine example of Greek Revival ecclesiastical architecture. The South Congregational Church's steeple was for many years a landmark on the City's skyline.

Currently Peabody's District Court building occupies this key downtown site. This building serves as an anchor for Peabody Square's northwest corner. The courthouse's curved main facade echos the curve of its corner lot. Emphatically horizontal in massing it shields one's view of the parking lots, railroad tracks and one story structures to the north.

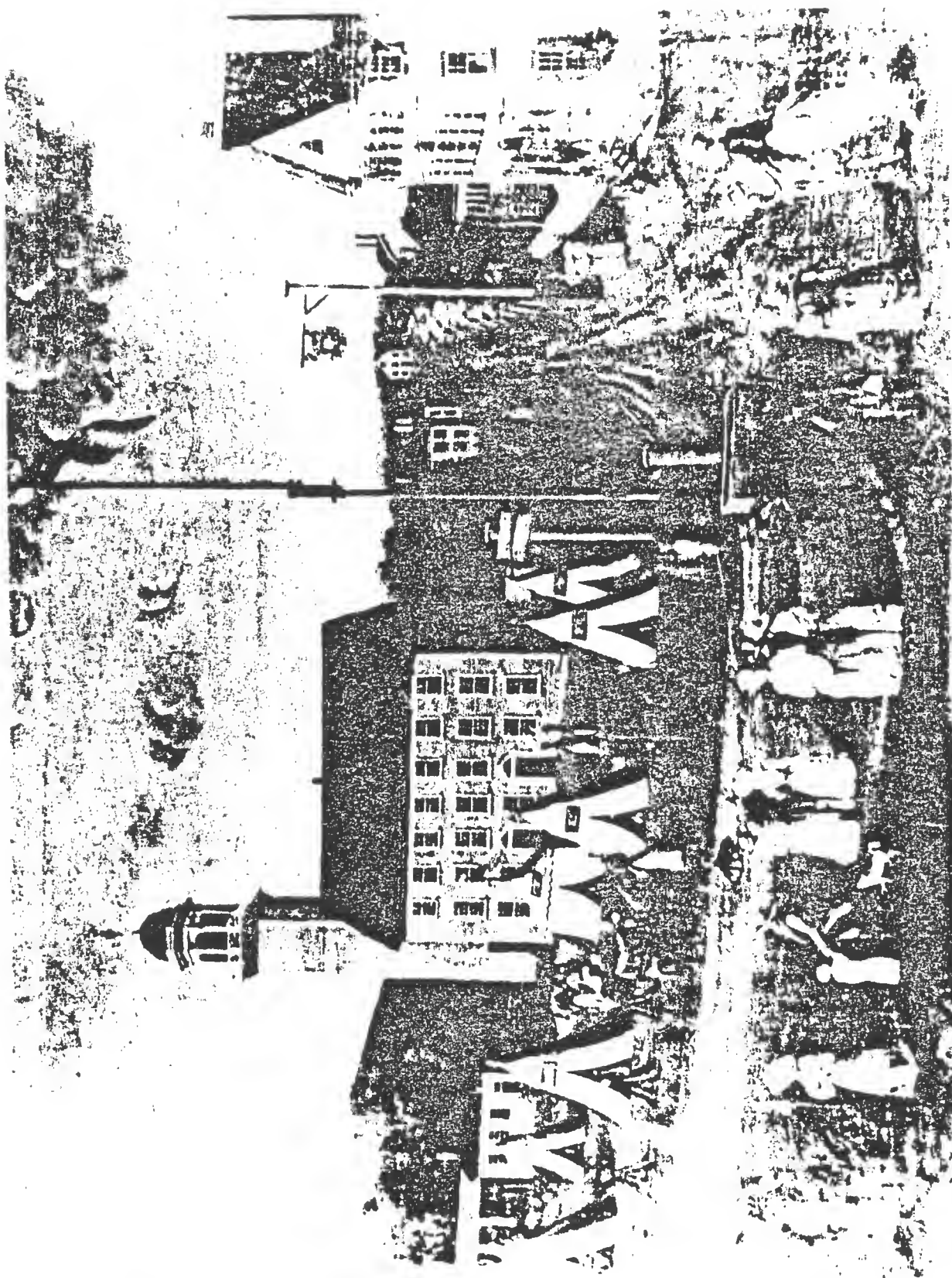


FIGURE 1

PEABODY SQUARE IN 1828 . Shown in painting is first South Church (1711 -1836); District School C. 1766 at left; Enoch Poor's West India goods store; Buxton's Hill in background. On right is Dustin's Hotel still standing; Henry Poor's home, and gambrel roof house built by Jonathan Dustin. Gardner's bridge over mill pond on Central Street, on left two tuft houses and Jacobs house on hill. Capt. William Sutton on horse and Light Infantry in campment.



South Congregational
Church

FIGURE 2

Peabody Square in 1848

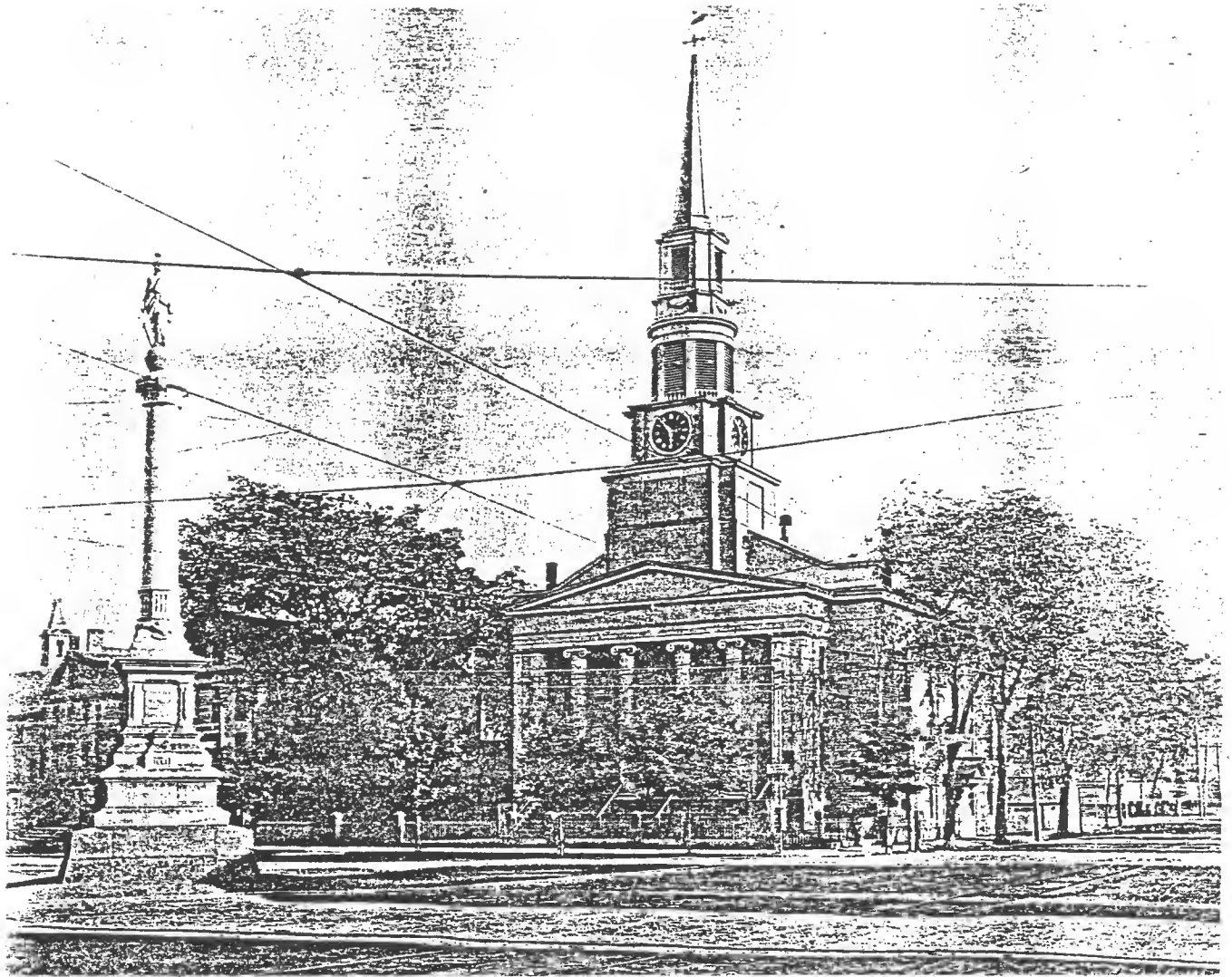


FIGURE 3

Peabody Square

Courtesy of the Boston
Atheneum



FIGURE 4
Peabody Square

Courtesy of the
Peabody Historical
Society

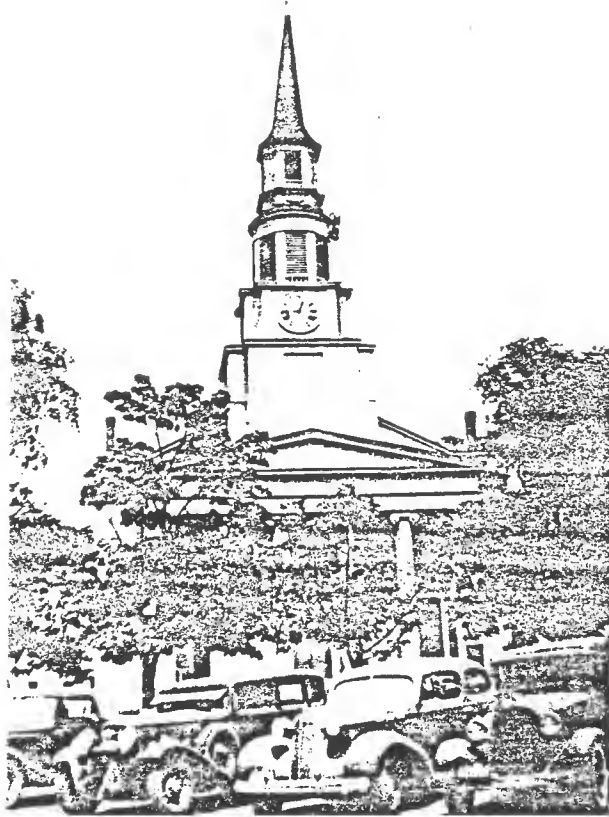


FIGURE 5

The fourth church of the South Congragational
Society - Courtesy fo the Peabody His-
torical Society

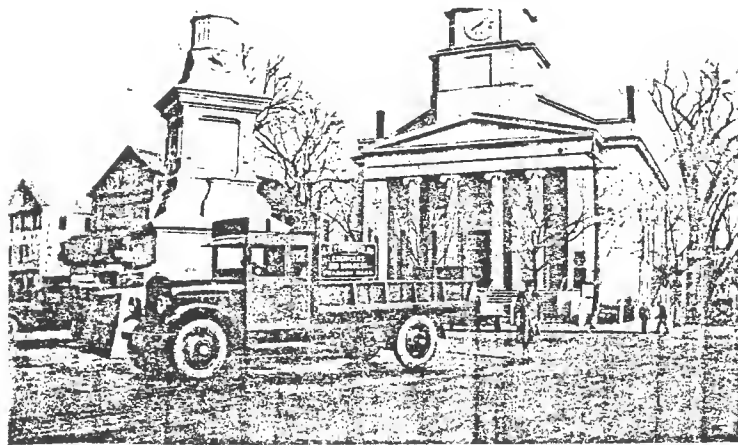


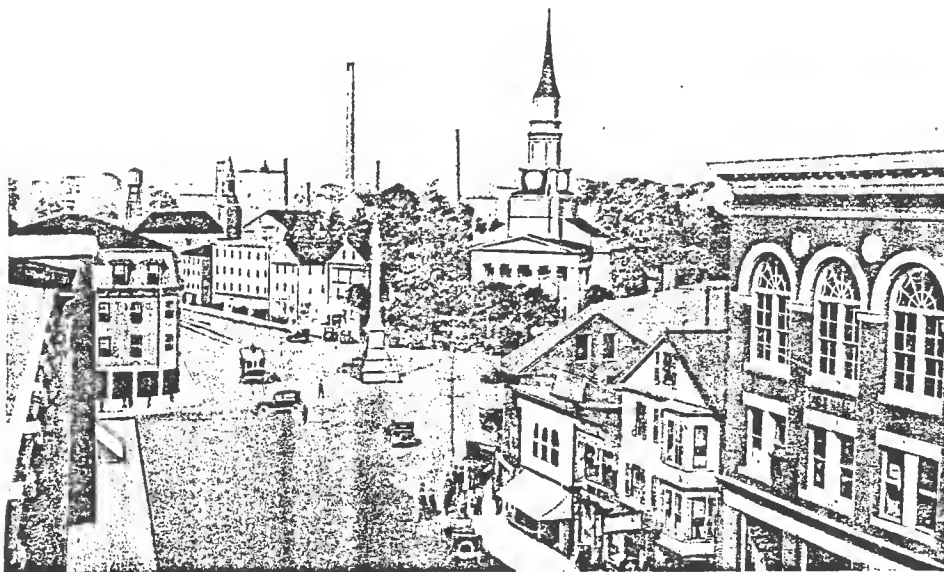
FIGURE 6

THE SQUARE LOOKING WEST, PEABODY, MASS.



FIGURE 7

Postcard views of Peabody Square and the
South Congregational Church.



PEABODY SQUARE, PEABODY, MASS.

FIGURE 8

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 27 Lowell Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER Ankeles, Harry; Harmon, Marshall E.; Ankeles, David and Bonfati, Leonard A. Trustees AHAB Trust
- 2) HISTORIC NAME Dustin Block/Lalimes Garage
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE offices
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE portions of GF - ca.1830/altered ca. 1923
SOURCE surmise based on John A. Wells Peabody Story, p. 343. Bailey & Hazen View of Peabody 1877.
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF N/A
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF commercial UF N/A

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE altered Federal style structure
- 2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION Not visible

FACADE white washed brick - some sections of common bond

TRIM concrete

VIEW FROM Southeast

PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 27 Lowell Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF N/A
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, government, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING severely disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING detracts from historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Reduced to a single story ca. 1923,¹ 27 Lowell Street was originally a four story brick structure. Stylistically Federal, its massing and hip roof were similar to that of the old Bushby Grocery Store building on Main Street (see report on 108 Main Street).²

Jonathan Dustin is listed as the owner of this property in 1872.³ This building was called the Dustin Block during the late nineteenth century.⁴ He also owned the old Sun Tavern building and the McGurn Block.⁵ (10 Lowell Street)

27 Lowell Street was associated with Peabody Newspaper publishing from the 1880's until 1922.⁶ The Peabody Press published here from the 1880' until 1895.⁷ John P. Fernald and Albert Vittum were the proprietors of this "Eight Page Weekly Paper".⁸ In 1895 the Press merged with the Peabody Advertiser under the name Peabody Union.⁹ The Union published in the Dustin block until 1916.¹⁰ From 1916 until 1922 the Peabody Enterprise was located at this address.¹¹

Upon alteration to a single story during the early 1920's the old Dustin Block became a garage. Lalimes Garage occupied this building from the 1920's until the 1960's.

Law offices currently occupy this building.

Footnotes

1. The Peabody Press vacated this building in 1922. A garage is listed at this address in Polk's Peabody Directory of 1925-6. Peabody Businesses are not included in North Shore directories from 1918-1924.
2. See Bailey and Hazin's View of Peabody (1877).
3. 1872 Essex County Atlas.
4. Namkeag Directory for Salem, Danvers, Peabody, etc.; 1884-84, p. 586.
5. Welles, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 260.
6. Ibid; p. 343.
7. Naumkeag Directory; 1884-85, p. 586.

Footnotes (cont.)

8. Welles, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 343.
9. Ibid.; p.343.
10. Ibid.; p.343.
11. Ibid.; p.343.
12. Polk's Salem Directory; 1924-25, 1929, 1930, 1940, 1950, 1960, 1970.

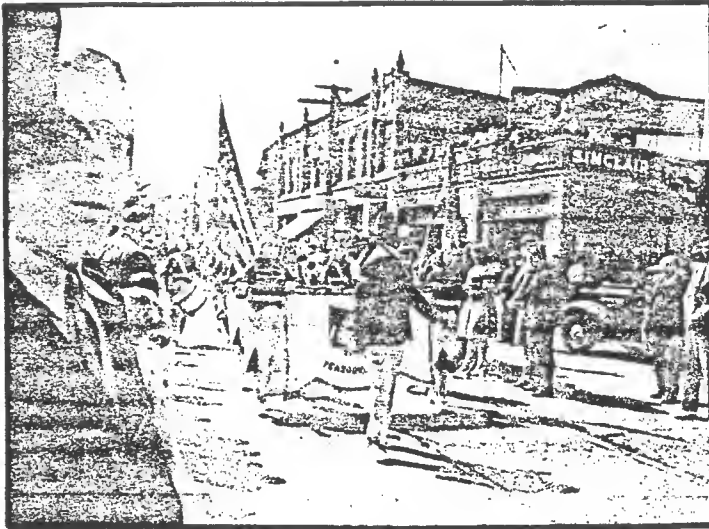
PRESENT CONDITION

This brick rectangular building is a single story in height. It has a stepped parapet and a flat roof. The outline of its round arched Lowell Street entrance is still visible. This may be the original entrance treatment of the circa 1825-30 Dustin Block. Flanking this old entrance are wide bricked over bays. These bays once contained glass display windows. Presently narrow rectangular windows are situated in the center of these recessed bays.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND EVALUATIONS

The 1877 Bailey and Hazen View of Peabody provides the only clue to this building's original appearance. Returning this structure to its original four story height and Federal style appearance would be problematic without more detailed early views. Furthermore, a return to its post 1920's Lalime's Garage appearance would not be advisable as this structure, in its present form, seems to function well as a law office building.

27 Lowell Street is bordered by a parking lot to the east. This side of the building might be improved by the planting of shrubs and flower beds.



27 Lowell Street -
Lalime's Garage
before its redesign
for law offices

FIGURE 1

586

PEABODY ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

FERNALD & VITTUM,
Printers and Publishers,
AND PROPRIETORS OF THE
Peabody Press,

AN EIGHT PAGE WEEKLY PAPER,

Published Wednesdays. Subscription \$2.50 per Year.

Job Printing in all its Branches.

We are prepared to do Book, Newspaper, and Mercantile Printing in
the best manner and at Reasonable Prices. Estimates
given on application.

OFFICE, - - 27 LOWELL STREET, DUSTIN BUILDING,
OPPOSITE NEW TOWN HALL, PEABODY.

JOHN P. FERNALD.

ALBERT VITTUM.

FIGURE 2

The Peabody Press was located at 27 Lowell Street
before it was altered to a single story.

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 29-35 Lowell Street

- 1) CURRENT OWNER DiStephano, Joseph F., Trustee First Avenue Realty
Trust, 421 Lowell Street, Lynnfield
- 2) HISTORIC NAME Korn Building
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE Commercial/Offices
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1916
SOURCE Plaque on building
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF commercial
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF offices UF offices

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Late Gothic Revival
- 2) MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION Not visible

FACADE dark red stretcher bond brick work

TRIM molded concrete piers, banding

VIEW FROM South PHOTO TAKEN June 1980



ADDRESS 29-35 Lowell Street

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF major but reversible changes
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES government, commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact with minor intrusion and/or losses
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral with Historic Setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The Caleb Osborn residence occupied 29 Lowell Street's site in the late nineteenth century.¹ Osborn was president of the Warren National Bank from 1884-94.²

The present structure dates from 1916.³ It was constructed to house the offices of the Korn Leather Manufacturing Company.⁴ Founded in Salem in 1902⁵ by Max and Rhoda Korn, this company moved to Walnut Street, Peabody in 1915.⁶

The Korn Company ceased operation upon the retirement of Max Korn in the 1950's.⁷

During the 1940's the Lowell Street Cash Market occupied a portion of the ground floor.⁸ The building presently contains the offices of doctors, lawyers and Robin and Haar Chemists.

Footnotes

1. 1872 map of Peabody (Essex County Atlas); 1884 map of Peabody; 1897 map of Peabody.
2. Welles, John A.; The Peabody Story, p. 351.
3. Ibid; p. 351.
4. Ibid; p. 351.
5. Ibid; p. 351.
6. Ibid; p. 351.
7. Ibid; p. 351.
8. Ibid; p. 351.

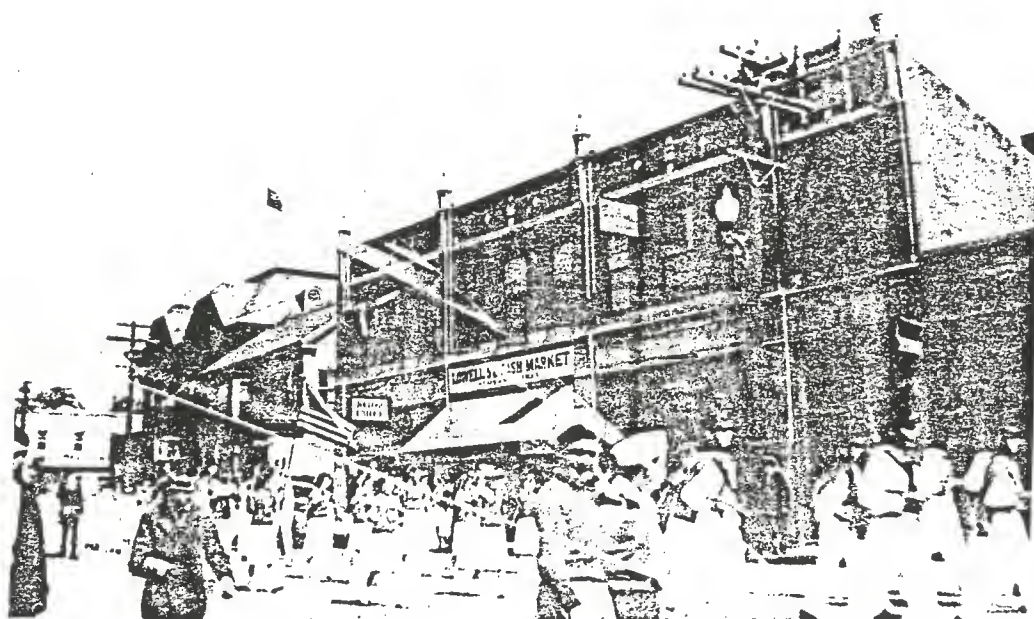
PRESENT CONDITION

This two story structure is constructed of multi-colored brick laid in stretcher bond. Concrete and brick piers divide the ground floors into four bays. The wide bays to the west of the narrow entrance were once faced with wide glass display windows. The glass has been replaced by modern brick and multipaned windows. Most of the late Gothic Revival concrete facade decoration is intact. Missing are the five pinnacles which were located on top of the piers. (see Figure 1)

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

During the first three decades of the twentieth century the main facades of Peabody commercial blocks generally displayed Colonial Revival surface decoration (ie. the Dobrotinar Buildings on Main Street). The Korn building, built in 1918, is the only commercial building in Peabody which is enriched with late Gothic Revival detail.

While the building currently displays "up to date" surface treatments, enough of its original fabric has survived to warrant a return to its 1918 appearance. It might be advisable to remove the brick infill from between the concrete piers and reinstall glass display windows. This building's appearance might also benefit from the reproduction and reinstallation of the pinnacles which once surmounted its parapet.



KORN BUILDING ca. 1945

Courtesy of the Peabody
Historical Society

FIGURE 1

PEABODY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION Civil War Monument

- 1) CURRENT OWNER City of Peabody
- 2) HISTORIC NAME Civil War Monument
- 3) PROPERTY TYPE monument
- 4) ZONING CLASSIFICATION _____

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1881
- SOURCE date on monument
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER Hallowell Granite Company, Hallowell, Maine
- 3) ORIGINAL USE: GF N/A UF N/A
- 4) PRESENT USE: GF N/A UF N/A

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE N/A
- 2) MATERIALS:
- FOUNDATION granite
- FACADE granite
- TRIM granite

VIEW FROM South PHOTO TAKEN August, 1980



ADDRESS Peabody Square

VISUAL ASSESMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES N/A
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG. FABRIC: GF N/A
UF N/A
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, governmental
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING severely disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to historic setting

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

On November 24, 1879 Comrade W.F. Sumner of Peabody's Post 50 G.A.R. made a motion "that the Post erect a monument to the soldiers and sailors of this town who died during the war of the Rebellion, and that an executive committee be appointed to build the same." At the town meeting of 1880, \$8,000 was approved for the erection of the monument. Prior to the monument's construction a Civil War flagstaff, erected July 4, 1861, had been located in the center of Peabody Square.

The monument's construction began on November 10, 1880. It was dedicated one year later. The Hallowell Granite Company of Hallowell, Maine was awarded the contract to construct the monument. Hallowell Granite was also employed in the construction of the City Hall on Lowell Street (1883).

The base of the monument is fifteen feet square. From the base to the female sculptural figure symbolizing America it is fifty feet tall. This figure is a copy of the statue by Thomas Crawford which surmounts the dome of the United States Capitol.

Footnotes

1. All quotes, dates, costs, etc. have been taken from The Peabody Story by John A. Wells.

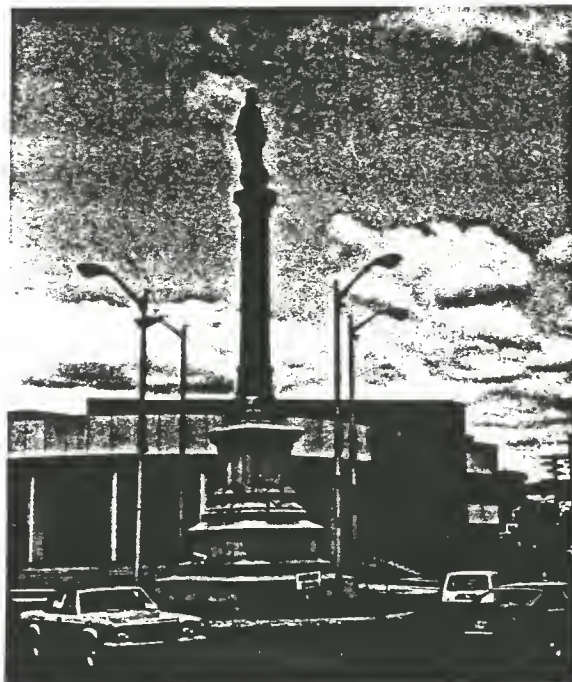
PRESENT CONDITION

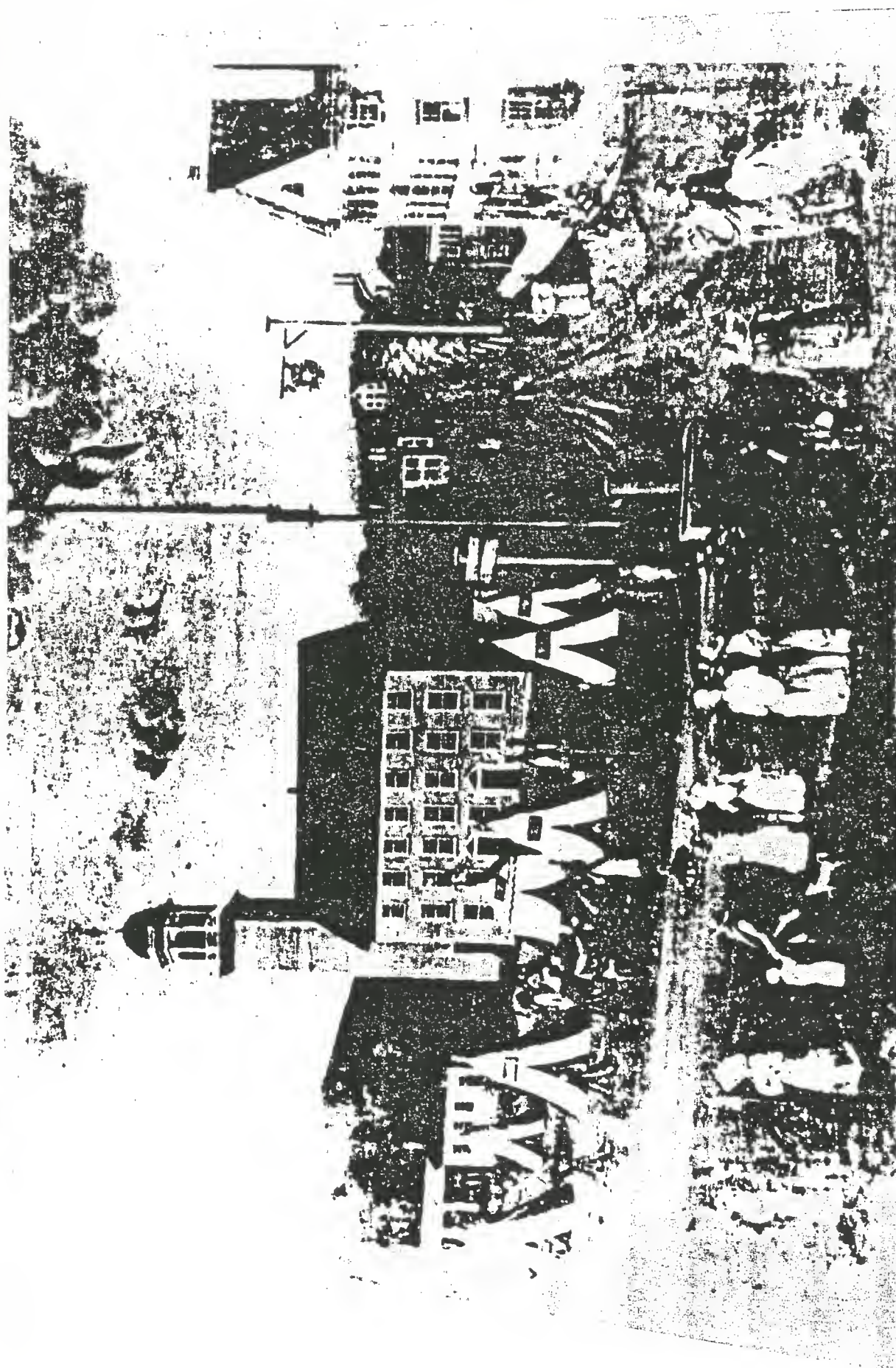
This monument retains its original fabric. (see photograph)

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Civil War Monument is a highly visible landmark in downtown Peabody. Prior to its erection in 1881 its site was occupied by an extremely tall wooden flag pole which had been installed in 1861. In an 1828 painting of Peabody Square a flag pole appears to the east of the present monument's site.

As an important regional crossroads Peabody Square has traditionally had a marker in its center. The Civil War Monument fulfills this tradition admirably and is an important element in establishing and maintaining the City's individual identity. It should be enhanced with appropriate landscaping and perhaps illumination at night.





(Figure 1)

PEABODY SQUARE IN 1828. Shown in painting is first South Church (1711 - 1836); District School C. 1766 at left; Enoch Poor's West India goods store; Buxton's Hill in background. On right is Dustin's Hotel still standing; Henry Poor's home, and gambrel roof house built by Jonathan Dustin. Gardner's bridge over mill pond on Central Street, on left two tuft houses and Jacobs house on hill. Capt. William Sutton on horse and Light Infantry

FIGURE 1



FIGURE 2

Peabody Square in 1877
(Bailey and Hazen View of Peabody)

Note the flagpole (erected in 1861) on the
site of the Civil War Monument

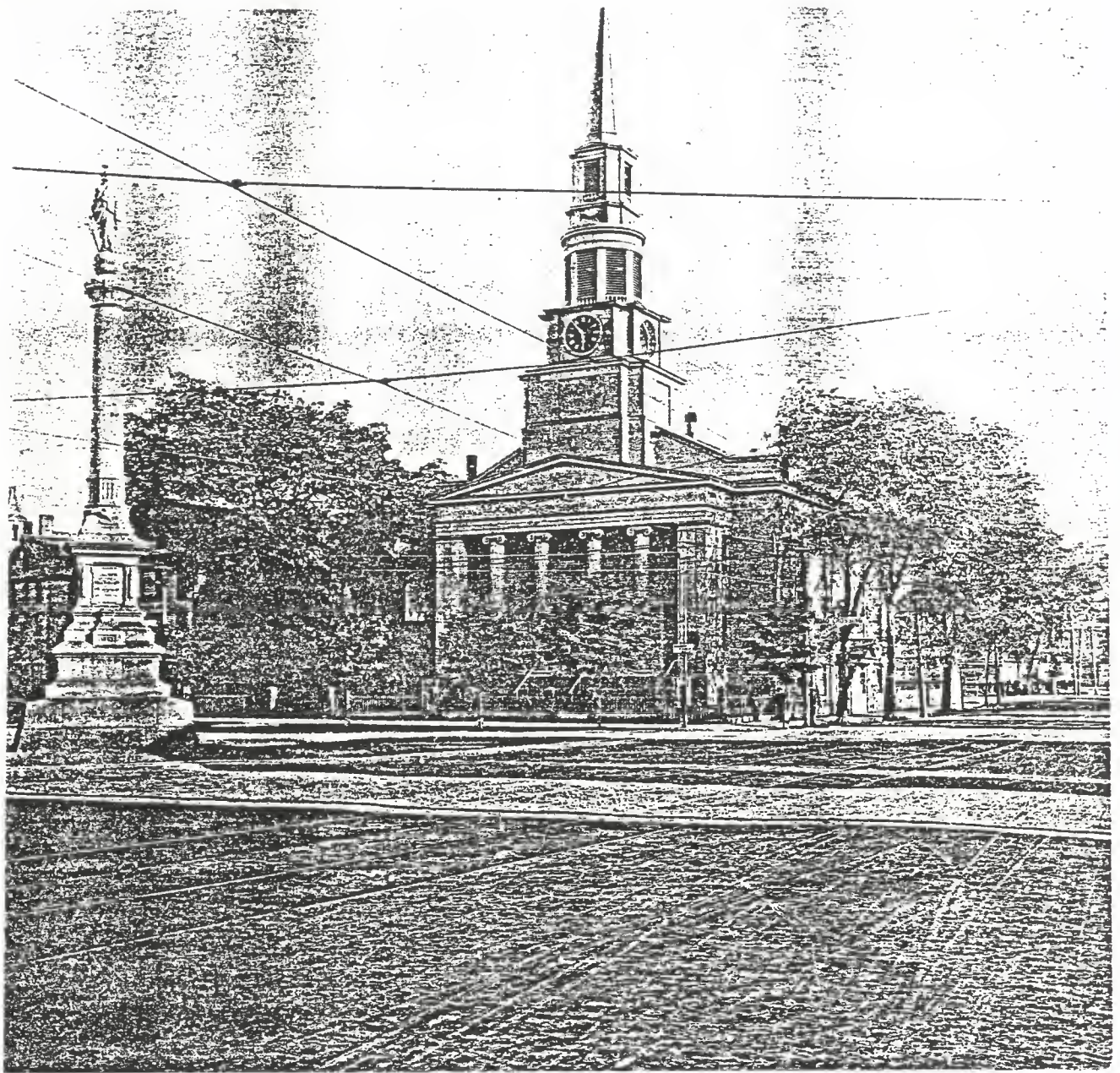


FIGURE 3
Peabody Square

courtesy of Peabody Historical
Society

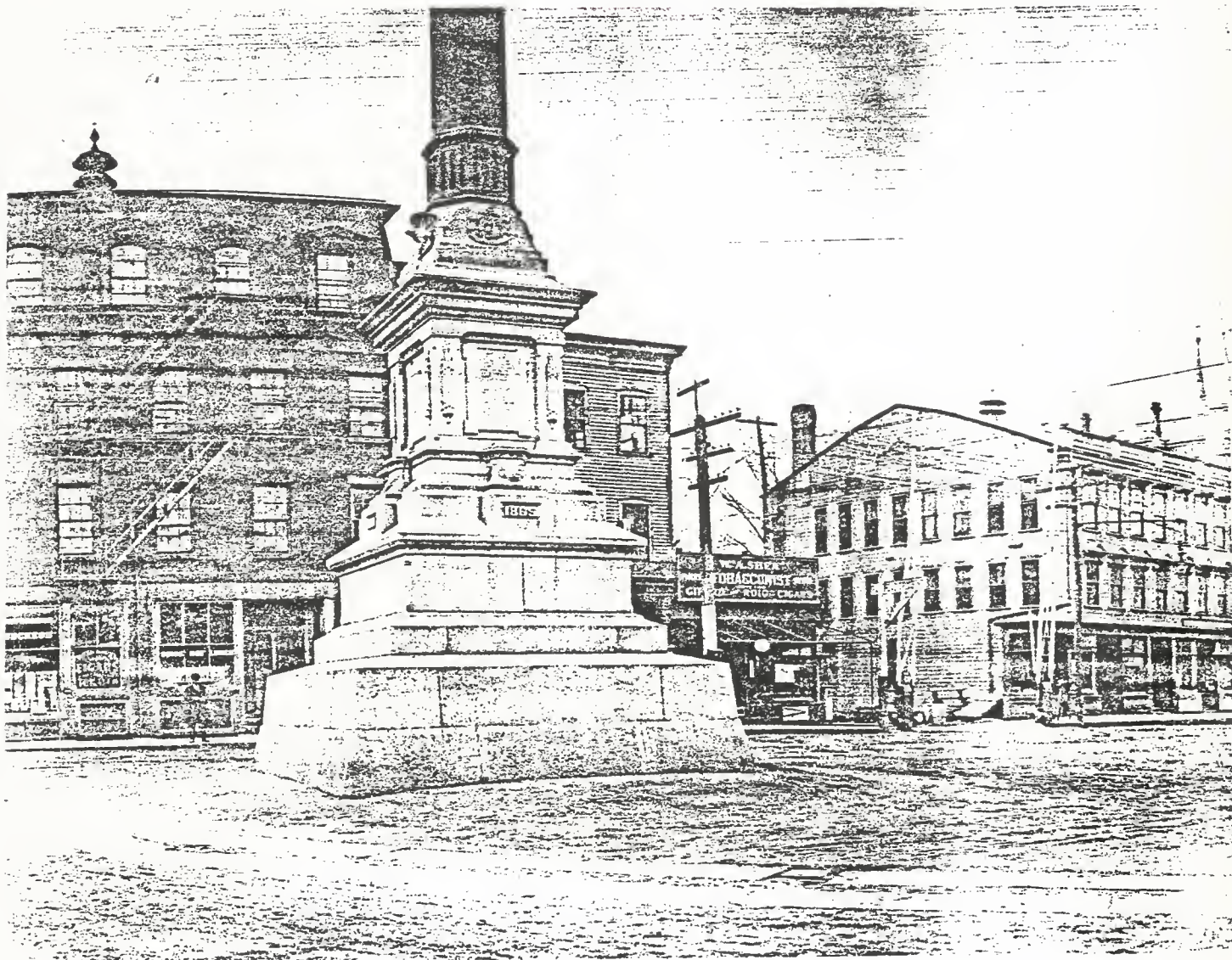


FIGURE 4

Peabody Square in 1915

Courtesy of Peabody Historical Society

